

# St. Faustina Catholic Church



*St. Faustina Parish is a community of Roman Catholics inspired by the Holy Spirit called to reflect God's Divine Mercy, to foster spiritual growth, and attend to the temporal and spiritual needs of all God's people.*



**Parish Office Hours & Contact Information:**

Monday thru Thursday, 10 am to 4 pm  
Friday, 10 am to 1 pm

**NEW Phone: 352-515-9297 // Fax: 352-559-3920**

**NEW Location: 1714 U.S. Highway 27**

**Clermont, FL 34714**

**Web Site: [www.stfaustina.org](http://www.stfaustina.org)**

**Week of Jan. 2 to Jan. 10**

## **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

### Clergy

**Parochial Administrator**

**Father Dave Gillis**

**Assisting Priest**

**Father Fernando Gil**

### Winter Mass Schedule

**Saturday, 4 pm, 6 PM**

**Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 am**

**Mass in Spanish, 7 pm**

### Daily Masses

**8 am — Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday**

*The Divine Mercy Chaplet  
takes place 15 minutes  
prior to all Weekend Masses.*

### Divine Mercy Chaplet

**Wednesdays @ 3 pm**

### Anointing of the Sick

**First Tuesday @ 8 am Mass**

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**First Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm**



*St. Faustina Catholic Parish celebrated the opening of its new "home" the weekend of December 19-20 when Bishop Noonan blessed us and our parish site...the fourth since we were established in 2006. To see where we came from and where we are headed, please go to our website at: <http://www.stfaustina.org/ourhistory20062016.html>*

**Reconciliation** is celebrated from 3:00 to 3:45 pm on Saturday or by prearranged appointment with the priest.

**Baptism** Parents of children to be baptized must be registered and actively participating members of the parish for at least four months prior to arranging any baptism. Attendance at parental preparation class is required.

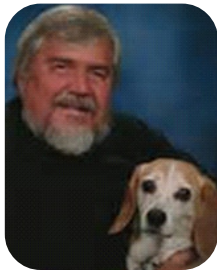
**Marriage** Weddings are celebrated on Saturdays. Engaged couples should contact the parish office for an initial interview before setting any dates. A four-month preparation program is required. At least one member of the couple must have been a registered and actively participating member of the parish for a minimum of four months prior to the beginning of marriage prep.

**PARISH STAFF** Elaine Goth, *Bookkeeper*; Marylu Mariniello, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*; Carol Arroyo, *Parish Secretary*; Bob Vince, *Knights of Columbus Grand Knight*; Jose Cordeiro, *Spanish Mass Ministry Coordinator*; Nancy Harrigan, *Readers and EMs Coordinator*; Bill Murphy, *Mass Captains, Ushers & Greeters Coordinator*; Kelly Mucci, *Music Ministry*



***If you are a visitor to St Faustina Catholic Parish, we want you to know how welcome you are -- whether you have come from across the world, from another part of the country, or from another parish here in the state or city.***

## Father Dave's Corner



We saw the star at its rising and have come to do Him homage. The explanation of the Magi seems so simple and straightforward. But, like most aspects of our salvation history, there is more to the story.

We do not know exactly where these men began their journey. We do not know how long or how far they traveled, but we believe they were not Jews or Romans. They did not come to pay homage to THEIR OWN

newborn king, but to the king of the Jews. The Jews were a subjected people. Why would they make such a journey, bringing such extravagant gifts?

The Magi were believed to be astrologers who studied the sky and stars. If the star was bright enough for them to follow, was it not visible in Jerusalem, as well? Had nobody there noticed it and wondered about it? They knew Scripture, and would have been familiar with the passage we heard in today's first reading. Certainly, they could have put together the same explanation of a new Jewish king.

But Herod, who was alert to ANY threat against his reign, was, apparently, ignorant of the birth and its implications.

These are intriguing questions, but the answers would not really help us to see the significance of the visit of the Magi. In fact, such contradictions may help us notice the varying wonderful and mysterious ways that God worked and continues to work to bring about our salvation. The Jews, the chosen people of God, nearly missed what they had been anticipating for centuries. They were, for all intents and purposes, blind to the birth of the Savior: foreigners, though, were not only aware, but took action to honor Him.

The star was there for ALL to see. But only those who were open to its meaning were blessed with seeing who and what it represented. The account of the Magi helps us see that Jesus was born to be MORE THAN THE KING OF THE JEWS. He came to draw ALL PEOPLE to Himself and redeem ALL OF HUMANKIND. The mission of Jesus has no political or geographical boundaries, as we heard so eloquently in Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Today, let us thank God for all He has done to open the doors of heaven to us. His love knows no boundaries. Let us do our part in announcing that good news to those who have not yet seen the light. Let the love of God shine in us, and like the star of Bethlehem, lead others to Jesus. (Homilies, Diocese of Lansing, MI)

MAY THE LORD'S PEACE, JOY, HOPE, AND LOVE BE YOURS ALWAYS!

**Father Dave**



**Did you know we had a Facebook page? Please join us for daily devotions and important parish information by going to: St. Faustina Catholic Church from your Facebook page.**

"And I saw that truly nothing happens by accident or luck, but everything by God's wise providence . . . for matters that have been in God's foreseeing wisdom since before time began befall us suddenly, all unawares; and so in our blindness and ignorance we say that this is accident or luck, but to our Lord God it is not so." — St. Juliana of Norwich

**This appeared on Dec. 17 AS SOON as we knew we were moving: UPDATED MOVING ALERT!!!!** We have celebrated our final mass at the Zak Center!!! We are having all weekend masses at the new location—beginning on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 at 4 PM—which is: 1714 U.S. Highway 27, (Glenbrook Commons) Clermont FL, 34714—to the far right of the old Sweet Bay Supermarket. PLEASE share this information with your family, friends, visitors and anyone else you know.



Pray everyday, thanking God for the St. Faustina parish community we have, and asking Him to provide us with the church building we desire.

**BUILDING GOD'S PROJECT**

**CONSTRUCTION FUND BALANCE IS: \$1,108,044**  
(as of Monday, December 21, 2015)

**DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY: Tuesday, Jan. 5th at GATOR'S DOCKSIDE IN CAGAN'S CROSSING. ALL DAY, FROM 11 am to closing,** drop your receipt in the box at the host stand and the parish will get a percentage of your meal. No flyer needed. Please help if you can. **PLEASE DON'T FORGET OUR REGULARS--Mandarin Garden,** down on 192 East, 1/2 mile from 27.. and **Sarah's Greek Cuisine** in Cagan's Crossing as well as newcomer, **Bruno's NY Style Pizza and Italian Restaurant** (Postcards are available at Church entrances. **ANYTIME** you dine at Bruno's we will get 10%. **DINE TO DONATE RESULT:** We received a check from DiRomio's on 12/22/15 in the amount of \$100.00 for our Nov. 24th event. Many thanks for all who participated.

**TEXAS ROADHOUSE SUNDAY EVENTS--**If you dine with them on Sunday from Noon to 4 PM and just write "St. Faustina Church" on your receipt and drop it in the box at the host stand. The parish will receive 10% of your receipt.

**RAISE MONEY FOR ST. FAUSTINA CHURCH:** By having H & R Block Prepare your taxes. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3. 1) Get a REFERRAL FORM with our special code at the parish office. Take this form to a participating H&R Block office and give it to the tax professional. To find the nearest H & R Block office, go tohrblock.com. 2) If you're a NEW CLIENT, St. Faustina's will receive \$20. 3) Feel good knowing you helped us raise more money as you got the necessary taxes done. This program runs from January 1 through April 15, 2016.

**NEW ONLINE FUND-RAISER--**See our website: <http://www.stfaustina.org/earn-cashback.html> to see and participate in St. Faustina's partnership with Shop.Com's Non Profit Program designed to help us raise more funds for the Construction Project. Just do your shopping as you normally would, but order your items through St. Faustina's web page. You get your items, and some great deals, some Cash back, and the parish benefits as well. There is a flyer in the office (and on our website) that takes you step by step through the sign-up process. Our Shop Consultant is Francis Mulhern and you can call him with any questions at (267-275-6182).

**ATTENTION ALL AMAZON SHOPPERS--**To find out more about this wonderful opportunity to add to our building fund, please go to our web site: [www.stfaustina.org](http://www.stfaustina.org) and click on the **AMAZONSMILE FUNDRAISER link.**

**ATTENTION CRUISE-GOERS! A NEW informational flyer is now posted on our website regarding our 2016 St. Faustina Cruise on Royal Caribbean's Vision of the Seas. There are STILL cabins available (one was booked just last week).**

**OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP THE PARISH:** Eiana Villarta and Kim Nigrelli, parishioners and Real Estate Agents, are offering a portion of their commission to St. Faustina's Construction Fund. Pick up a flyer at the bookcase in the front lobby.



**As of 12/22** we have 227 families pledging \$47,814.25 and paying \$44,867.77. That is 44.7% of our parish. Many thanks

For more information and for a **COMPLETE LIST OF OUR MINISTRIES,** and who to contact, please see our web site at [www.stfaustina.org](http://www.stfaustina.org) and click on the appropriate link(s) on the right side of the page.

**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER to contact Father Dave after office hours. Call the parish number: (352) 515-9297 and you will get a voice mail message telling you the number for getting in touch with me IN AN EMERGENCY.**



If you missed Bishop Noonan's visit to our new home the weekend of Dec. 19-20, please go to: <http://www.stfaustina.org/ourhistory20062016.html> for a photo essay.

**THE EXTENDED WINTER MASS SCHEDULE** has begun. Saturday's masses are at 4 and 6 pm with Sunday masses scheduled for 7:30, 9:00 and 11 am in English and at 7 pm in Spanish.

**By the way, the NEW ADDRESS for the Church is 1714 U.S. Highway 27, (Glenbrook Commons) Clermont, FL 34714. The NEW PHONE NUMBER is 352-515-9297**

**SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND Jan. 2-3, 2016...**to help defray the expenses the parish will incur because of our shortfall with the Our Catholic Appeal. Those parishioners who HAVE ALREADY given to the OCA are EXEMPT from participating in THIS COLLECTION...There is NO ENVELOPE, so we will pass the baskets a second time to raise as much as we can to cover our shortfall. Our goal was \$51,120.00 and we ONLY had pledged \$47,249.25 as of 12/15 (that is a shortfall of almost \$4,000.00). The amount paid on pledges as of 12/15 was only \$43,636.86 (that is a \$7,500.00 shortfall). The parish is responsible for the entire goal amount, so whatever we can raise in this collection will help with the final shortfall. Those of you who did not participate are asked to be generous to this collection.

**SPECIAL HANDICAP PARKING SPACES ARE RESERVED** at the 20 closest spaces to the building. WE BEG all of you to please keep those spaces free for the truly handicapped parishioners and visitors who attend our masses.

**THE 2016 ENVELOPES are ready to be picked up---PLEASE pick you up.**

**YOU CAN HELP WITH THE NEW EVANGELIZATION:** If you know of any Catholics who live in your neighborhood or in your development, please let them know that we have moved to our new location!!! Tell them how much parking we have and how much room is now available in the church. The Diocese is looking for us to increase the number of permanent, year-round registered parishioners so they can be reassured that building a new church is a safe bet. Let's get out there and invite them into our loving and welcoming community.

**ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?** Many times people have attended Mass regularly, and for many years don't realize they are NOT registered. To Sponsor someone for Baptism or Confirmation, you are required to have a Certificate of Eligibility from your Church. Also to Baptize your child or enter them into the Faith Formation Classes, you must be a registered parishioner. Please register by picking up a Parish Registration Form in the office reception area. **THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AS WE MOVE TO OUR NEW HOME** as we anticipate a larger parish community.

**ST. FAUSTINA'S MUSIC MINISTRY:** Sing a new Song unto the Lord! Everyone is encouraged to share their musical gifts, no matter how big or small, with the Lord! The parish will be starting both an Adult Choir and a Children's Choir in the new year. Adult choir will sing at the 9 AM Mass and Children at the 11 AM beginning Sunday Feb. 14, 2016. **PRACTICES WILL BEGIN Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016.** Children's practice will be from 5:00-5:45 PM...Adults from 6:00-7:00 PM. Cantors are also needed for the 4 PM Saturday and the 9 AM Sunday liturgies. Cantor practices will be held on Thursday, at 7 PM or by appointment. Anyone who is willing to share their instrumental talent with the community is also asked to contact Kelly. **For information go to: <http://www.stfaustina.org/newmusicministry.html>**

**BAKE SALES are the second weekend of the month.**

**December 20th Offertory: \$8,769**



## Mass Intentions

**January 2 to January 10, 2016**

**Sat. 1/2 SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY of the LORD**

*Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-6 Matthew 2:1-12*

**4 PM -- Philip Dezotell + (Mr. & Mrs. Walter Dezotell)**

**6 PM -- Thanksgiving Prayers for our new home**

**Sun. 1/3**

**7:30 AM -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina**

**9:00 AM -- Donald Crowe + (wife, Kathy)**

**11:00 AM -- Thanksgiving Prayers for our new home**

**7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Pacho Rincon + (Marion Penso & Fransico Zambrano)**

**Mon. 1/4 NO MASS**

**Tues. 1/5 8 AM -- Denise Campbell + (Family)**

*1 John 3:22-4:6*

*Matthew 4:12-25*

**Wed. 1/6 8 AM -- Sara Jones + (Friends)**

*1 John 4:7-10*

*Mark 6:34-44*

**Thurs. 1/7 8 AM -- Leonard P. Cole + (Lillian Nicoletti)**

*1 John 4:19-5:4*

*Luke 4:14-22*

**Fri. 1/8 8 AM -- Mrs. Buchmann + (John Pannacchione)**

*1 John 5:5-13*

*Luke 5:14-21*

**Sat. 1/9 FEAST OF THE BAPTISM of the LORD**

*Isaiah 42:1-7 Acts 10:34-38 Luke 3:15-22*

**4 PM -- Intentions of Julia Koperova, 99th birthday**

*(Marta Stranianeck)*

**6 PM -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina**

**Sun. 1/10**

**7:30 AM -- Stephen, Eleanor, & Stephen Paul Verostko + (Family)**

**9:00 AM -- Marie Santomaso + (Phil Santomaso)**

**11:00 AM -- Charles Verbetich + (May Ann & Family)**

**7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Claudio Flores + (Alex & Family)**

## 2016 Faith Formation--New Class Times

**Tuesday: 6:00 – 7:15**

P/K & K, Grades 1, 2, 6

**Wednesday:**

**4:00 – 5:15:** RCIA (Communion)

**4:30 – 5:45:** RCIA (Unbaptized)

**6:00 – 7:15:** Grades 3, 4, 5, 7

**Sunday: 12:00 – 1:15 PM**

Grade 8, RCIA-Adult Confirmation



## Stewardship



The story of the Magi — the wise men — as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew makes several facts very clear. We often focus on the gifts that were brought as examples of stewardship, and, in truth, this story was certainly one of the inspirations for the giving that occurs at

Christmas.

However, as is often the case, there is a deeper and more meaningful message found here. When they found the child Jesus, they opened their treasures and they gave "Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." They did not present the gifts to His parents; they presented them directly to Him. The baby Jesus had no real need for these gifts, and we assume that Mary and Joseph used them in Christ's behalf, to support Him.

That is what we do when we give to the Church. Although our gifts need to be viewed by us as gifts to God, we also must have a trust, which includes the understanding that those who will use the gifts will use them wisely and justly. The Magi trusted that their gifts would be used in a way that was beneficial. We need to have that same kind of trust. Most of all, we need to understand the importance of giving, of being good stewards.