

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

PARISH MISSION BEGINS THIS WEEK -- Our parish Mission will take place this week from Monday, Feb. 15th through Wednesday, Feb. 17th. See details on page 3.

Week of Feb. 13 to Feb. 21

FIRST SUNDAY of LENT

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

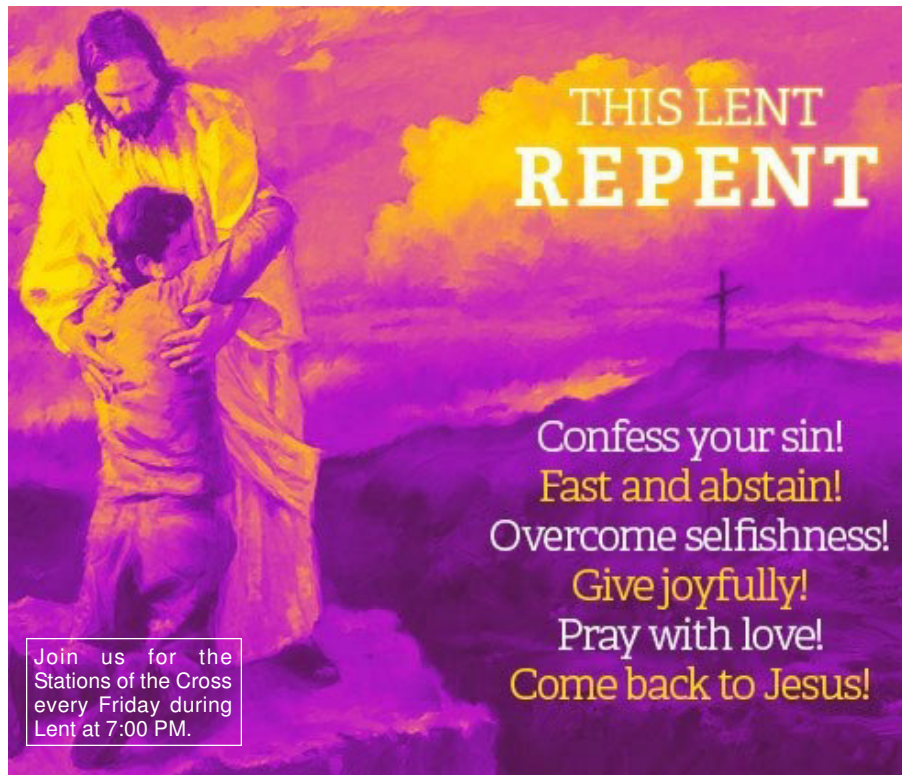
Wednesdays @ 3 pm

Anointing of the Sick

First Tuesday @ 8 am Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm



Join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 7:00 PM.

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.

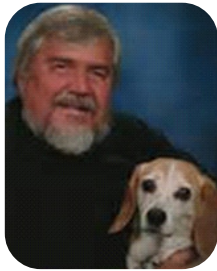
Marriage Weddings are celebrated on Saturdays. Engaged couples should contact the parish office for an initial interview before setting any dates. A four-month preparation program is required. At least one member of the couple must have been a registered and actively participating member of the parish 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. If you wish to become a registered parishioner, please pick up a form in the church or office or download it at www.stfaustina.org and return it to the office.

Father Dave's Corner



In this Holy Year of Mercy, we are called to seek God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reflecting today on Jesus' temptations and our temptations can prepare us.

God led the people of Israel into the desert, to forge them into a new people. The Spirit led Jesus into the desert to clarify the meaning of His Messiahship. The Spirit leads us into

the desert of Lent to reflect on how we have NOT always resisted temptation and have failed in love. In the desert we seek mercy and forgiveness.

Jesus resisted the temptations of the devil. Jesus came to feed a hunger greater than mere physical starvation. His food is the Word of God, which the devil misquotes and Jesus quotes correctly. Though people expected the Messiah to set up an earthly kingdom, Jesus renounced earthly power and glory. His kingdom is NOT of this world. His throne is the cross. Jesus would NOT put on a magic act. He would NOT take an easy road to popularity and acceptance.

We are not always as successful resisting temptation as Jesus was. Some of us Americans are noted for our obesity. We eat too much and too often. Lent invites us to cut back on unnecessary intake, to make sacrifices, aware that many in the world go to bed hungry. Unite your fasting with almsgiving through Operation Rice Bowl.

Grasping for power is not limited to politicians. It happens in families. Husband over wife, parents over children, children over parents, women over men, brother over sister. Getting MY WAY is NOT the way of following Jesus.

Superstition has not died out after all these centuries. People still think they can manipulate God— by the right kind of prayers, by a big donation, by a spectacular penance. God is not tempted by our machinations. Lent gives us the opportunity to face our failures.

A good Confession during Lent can open our hearts to God's merciful forgiveness. Confession comes out of the mouth. It requires honesty and humility. We need to put our sinfulness into words. Our repentance must come from the heart. It must be a sign of our love for God, who loves us very much, and whose love we often take for granted or reject.

Jesus had something to say to every one of the devil's temptations. He who is the Word quoted the word of God. God's word should guide OUR WORDS of reflection and contrition. "Jesus is Lord... Jesus is risen from the dead." These biblical words should guide what we say and what is in our heart. These words declare the triumph of Jesus over sin and death. They assure us that God's mercy CAN overcome our sin and even our death. These words WILL SAVE US!

The Gospel of Luke today tells us that it was the Holy Spirit who brought Jesus into His desert trial. That Spirit is God's Love. The same loving Spirit invites us into the desert of Lent and into the lonely places where we wrestle with lack of love, our sin. May our union with the sacrifice of Jesus at this Eucharist give us the courage to make the journey through Lent. (Rev. Paul J. Schmidt, Sunday Homily Helps: St. Anthony Messenger Press)

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

Father Dave



January 31st Offertory:

\$8,262



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



CONSTRUCTION FUND BALANCE IS: \$1,160,478
(as of January 31, 2016)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY at Texas Roadhouse on Tuesday, 2/16 from 3:30-10 PM. No flyer needed (although there are some on the bookcases as a reminder). Just drop your receipt in the box at the host stand on your way out, and the parish will receive 10% of whatever you eat and drink that night. **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 in the amount of \$180.00 from Bruno's for our 1/26/16 event. MANY, 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.



OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL 2016. Over the past few weeks, we have thought about, talked about and prayed about the ministries supported by **OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL**. Last week, we asked you to share a portion of your treasure so these ministries can continue throughout the Diocese. If you received your 2016 **Our Catholic Appeal** packet in the mail and made your pledge, thank you. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so today. By supporting the ministries of our diocese, every parish, including our own, is better equipped to carry out the work of Christ. **Our parish goal is \$45,000 (reduced from the original number of \$79,116.00 after my appeal to the Diocesan Finance Committee). Please note that the Diocese is listening to us...and are responding to our special situation, the 2016 goal is actually LOWER than our 2015 goal!!!!** Once we achieve our goal, the majority of the additional funds will be returned to our parish to support our own special needs, including our youth ministry program, and our future building. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Fasting and Abstinence During Lent

Good Friday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. **When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.** A Reflection on Lenten Fasting If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued 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 his Resurrection.

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.



The Parish Mission begins Monday at 7 PM Adoration with the theme: The Face of Mercy (Contemplating Mercy); Tuesday, 7 PM Adoration with the theme: This is the time to Have Mercy (Ps:102:13) with opportunity for private celebration of Reconciliation with various visiting priests; Wednesday, 7 PM Mass

with theme: Merciful, like the Father (Lk 6:36) Our call to be Merciful. There WILL BE A FREE WILL OFFERING taken on Wednesday night, with envelopes available to support the Franciscan Mission Outreach of Fr. Herald's Community. There are flyers and envelopes available on the bookcases.

The 11th annual LONG-SLEEVE RELIEF DRIVE runs from Feb. 10, Ash Wednesday through Mar. 24, Holy Thursday. Please prayerful consider how you can help, either by donating long-sleeve shirts, raising funds for the farmworkers, or making a monetary donation of your own. So many ways to help in this year of Mercy. **For information or donations, please contact George Cuttita at gcuttita@cfl.rr.com**

BEST LENT EVER—Don't Give up chocolate this Lent—Have you ever had a memorable Lent? More importantly, have you ever had a life-changing Lent? Dynamic Catholic invites you join Matthew Kelly, the Dynamic Catholic Team, and thousands of people across the country for the Best Lent Ever. Based on Matthew's new bestseller *Rediscover Jesus*, (the book we received at Christmas from the church instead of calendars) this free mail program will take you on a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus—and yourself—in a deeply personal way. Each day you'll receive an inspirational email with a short video featuring Matthew and a member of the Dynamic Catholic Team. Throughout Lent, they will guide you through each of the 40 chapters in *Rediscover Jesus* and share simple ways to bring Jesus into your everyday life. **Sign up at: www.dynamiccatholic.com/len**

.ATTENTION ON-LINE GIVING PARTICIPANTS...Please be sure to notify your bank of our change of address to 1714 US Hwy 27, Clermont, FL 34714.

MEMORIALIZING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE--We have about 125 or so of the wooden chairs that are now available for memorializing (but they are going fast) at the cost of \$150.00 each. Contact the office for the forms and for the needed information. **This income will be deposited into the Construction Fund.** --- There are also some bigger items that we have installed at the church that are available for partial and/or total memorialization. The new sound system cost us a total of \$12,728.07. We have also added some monitor speakers for musicians and singers at a cost of \$999.54. We are also contemplating purchasing a keyboard (\$1,200) to complement the organ that was donated from St. Timothy's parishioner in Lady Lake. **If anyone is interested in memorializing these bigger items, please contact Fr. Dave directly at (352) 515-9297, ext. 101.** These donations will be used to defray those expenses from our savings (not into Construction Fund).

BAKE SALES are the second weekend of the month.

NEW St. Faustina MUSIC MINISTRY-- Practices are held on Thursdays in the church. For information go to: <http://www.stfaustina.org/newmusicministry.html> or email Kelly at kmucci@stfaustina.org

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.

GOING OUT OF TOWN?...find a Catholic Church and mass schedule at: www.masstimes.org

HARBOUR HOUSE 24 HOUR HOTLINE: Did you know that there is a shelter available for folks suffering domestic violence in our area? **Call (4047)886-2856 24 hours a day...7 days a week.**



Mass Intentions

February 13 to February 21, 2016

- Sat. 2/13 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
Deuteronomy 26:4-10 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13
4 PM -- Special Intention for Nonie & Charlie Herrin (Margaret Gorman)
6 PM -- Elizabeth Slusher + (Helen Rowe)
- Sun. 2/14**
7:30 AM -- Living & Deceased of Passett Family (Barnett Family)
9:00 AM -- Sara Jones + (Senior Activity Group)
11:00 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina
- Mon. 2/15 NO MASS**
Leviticus 19:1-18 Matthew 25:1-46
- Tues. 2/16 -- 8 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)**
Isaiah 55:10-11 Matthew 6:7-15
- Wed. 2/17 -- 8 AM -- Leonard Beegle + (Dennis & Judy Donovan)**
Jonah 3:1-10 Luke 11:29-32
- Thurs. 2/18 8 AM -- Eugenia Vodvarka + (Gutowski Family)**
Esther C:12-25 Matthew 7:7-12
- Fri. 2/19 STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7 PM**
8 AM -- Pete Kupec, Jr. + (Fr. Dave)
Ezekiel 18:21-28 Matthew 5:20-26
- Sat. 2/20 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
Genesis 15:5-18 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 9:28-36
4 PM -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina
6 PM -- Leonard Beegle + (Dennis & Judy Donovan)
- Sun. 2/21**
7:30 AM -- Stephen, Eleanor, & Stephen Paul Verostko + (Family)
9:00 AM -- John Cangialosi + (Celia & Jim Kelly)
11:00 AM -- Mary Risucci + (Lois & Jim McGuire)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Alfreda Rivera + (Evelyn Garcia)

Stewardship



Literally speaking, "Deuteronomy," as in the Book of Deuteronomy, means "Second Law." This Old Testament Book from which our First Reading is drawn actually consists of three sermons delivered to the Israelites by Moses. Interestingly, in German, this book is called just *Mose*, drawing the name from the opening line of the Book which states, quite simply, "These are the words of Moses."

In today's reading Moses speaks not just to the Israelites, but to us as well, as is always the case with Holy Scripture. Moses makes reference to giving of one's first fruits. Specifically he says, "Therefore, I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given me, and having set them before the Lord, your God, you shall bow down in his presence."

Giving of first fruits is a way to acknowledge and honor God because it provides the Lord with His portion first, before any is used for one's self. That, of course, is an important aspect of stewardship, as challenging as that may be. Moses points out that it is more than giving first fruits, however. He recognizes that all comes from God, and we are called to return this first portion in thanksgiving for God's grace and love and blessings.

Moses would also remind us that giving must come from the heart, with a true attitude of gratitude. It is part of the way we worship the Lord by being stewards of His gifts.