

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
Phone: 863-438-6900 // Fax: 863-438-6902
Location: 9310 US Highway 192 Suites 1 - 3
Clermont, FL 34714



Week of Feb. 14 to Feb. 22

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Clergy
Parochial Administrator
Father Dave Gillis
Assisting Priest
Father Fernando Gil

Mass Schedule
Saturday, 4 & 6 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, &
11:00 am
Mass in Spanish, 7 pm

Daily Masses
8 am — Tuesday,
Wednesday,
Thursday & Friday



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*; Bob Vince, *Music Ministry*



Father Dave's Corner

There was a photo of Pope Francis that went viral on the internet a little over a year ago. It was very moving. It showed him embracing and kissing a 52-year-old man who was afflicted with very disfiguring tumors all over his body, including his head. Compassion was evident in Pope Francis's face as he prayed over this man. One who was often shunned by society was embraced by Francis

Flashback 800 years to another Francis—St. Francis of Assisi, who encountered a leper on the road. St. Francis's compassion overcame his dread of leprosy and he kissed the man. Afterward, the man was gone. It was then that Francis realized that he had embraced Christ. Francis and his friars continued ministering to lepers in the colony a few miles from the friary. Those whom society shunned, he embraced.

Today's Gospel time warps us back another 12 centuries. The account says that Jesus was moved with pity when the leper approached Him. Touching the man would make Jesus ritually unclean. However, with no thought of Himself, Jesus touched the leper and healed him of the disease. Realizing the importance of following the law, Jesus tells the man to go to the priest so he can be welcomed back into the synagogue and society—from isolation to community. Jesus restored not only the man's health, but his life.

We don't have much opportunity to kiss lepers today. Modern medicine has all but eradicated the disease in the First World. However, we don't have far to look to see folks who don't feel welcomed by society or the Church. You might have some in your own family, in your neighborhood. You may be one of them. Folks in our day who may feel unwelcome in our Church include: the unkempt homeless, who may smell bad...the homosexual...the divorced and remarried...the illegal immigrant...the alcoholic or drug addict...the mentally ill who may be disruptive...the woman who had an abortion...the former convict. Jesus came to save and heal them—just as much as He did you and me.

To the extent that we are judgmental and prejudice others, we are in need of Christ's healing touch. We need to be able to see Christ in others, to have Christ's compassion for the powerless, the poor, the hurting in mind, body, and spirit. We need to get to the place where we are able to "kiss the leper" of our day. Our community should be seen as a hospital for sinners—not a hotel for saints. We all need healing. It would be wonderful if we could be transparent, be ourselves, come just as we are, and feel accepted. Not that we condone sin, but that we love each other. When we open our hearts to Christ, all the rejected of the world come in with Him. May we enlarge our hearts and minds to make room for them. (Mary Lynne Rapien, Homily Helps, St. Anthony Messenger Press)

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

Father Dave

February 1st Offertory: \$13,054

IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT PARKING!!!! Please remember that the parking spaces on the property next door where the Tattoo parlor, furniture store, and ticket sales agents are **NOT TO BE USED FOR CHURCH PARKING!!!** We have our own parking lot in the back of the church...the Days Inn parking lot, except for beside our building, and if needed, the areas at Bardell Real Estate 3 properties over. PLEASE leave the spaces NEXT DOOR available for their customers.

YEAR END TAX STATEMENT: If you need your year-end donations tax letter, please cut this request from the bulletin, and return to the office. Letters will be ready at the end of January.

NAME _____ YOUR ENVELOPE NUMBER _____

BUILDING GOD'S PROJECT

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: \$913,881

(as of February 5th)

DINE TO DONATE: THIS Tuesday, Feb. 17th, Texas Roadhouse invites us back from 3:30-9PM. We get 10% of whatever you eat and drink that day. Flyers are available at the entrances of the church. **Don't forget our regulars--Mandarin Garden** (Right next door) and **Sarah's Greek Cuisine** in Cagan's Crossing. **Dine to Donate Results:** We received a check from Joe's Crab Shack on 1/27/15 in the amount of \$94.60 for our Jan. 6th event. Many thanks for your support.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE invites you to a charity luncheon to benefit Give Kids the World at the National Meat Cutter Challenge: At the Ice Factory of Central Florida, 2221 Partin Settlement Road in Kissimmee on Wed. Feb. 25th. The competition starts at 9 AM, but the Charity Benefit Lunch will be from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM. Cost per person is \$10 donation to Give Kids the World. The lunch includes a hand-cut steak, 2 made from scratch sides, fresh baked bread and a non-alcoholic beverage. 100% of all donations benefit Give Kids the World Village. IF you are interested in attending, please RSVP with your full name and number of attendees to kirsten.sands@texasroadhouse.com by Thursday, 2/19. This is a great Charity which offers a week stay to children who are seriously ill with their families. They have activities at the resort and take them to all of the theme parks at no cost.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE GIFT CARDS FOR SALE: We are selling Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards after Masses and at the office for \$10 each. Parish gets 10% of every card sold, and you get to use them anytime you wish. Let's keep on Building that fund!!!

ATTENTION ALL AMAZON SHOPPERS--We now have a new way for you to help St. Faustina's Building Fund. If you shop at AmazonSmile they will make a donation to your favorite charity of .5% of every eligible purchase you make. To find out more about this wonderful opportunity to add to our building fund, please go to our web site: www.stfaustina.org and click on the **AMAZONSMILE FUNDRAISER** link.

Faith Formation



There will be no classes the week of Ash Wednesday (2/17 and 2/18)

Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:30—Pre-K, Kind., & 1st grade;

7:00 – 8:30—Grades 4-5-6

Wednesdays, 5:00 – 6:30—Grades 2-3;

5:00 - 6:30--Youth R.C.I.A.;

7:00 - 8:30--Youth R.C.I.A (unbaptized);

7:00 - 8:30 -- Grades 7 & 8

There will be no classes during Holy Week (3/31 and 4/1). For the complete Sacramental Prep Dates for the 2015 spring semester, please go to our website at www.stfaustina.org

Church Ministries

For more information and for a **COMPLETE LIST OF OUR MINISTRIES, and who to contact, please see our web site at 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: (863) 438-6900 and you will get a voice mail message telling you the number for getting in touch with me IN AN EMERGENCY.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: THIS Wednesday, Feb. 18th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Season of Lent. Due to our past experience, there will be 3 (three) Masses that day: one at 8:00 AM, one at Noon, and one at 7:00 PM. Ashes will ONLY be distributed during these Masses. Please try to spread

yourselves out so that the crowds are not too overwhelming. If you can't make one of our masses, please be sure to get to one somewhere (even though it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation).

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO ATTENDED OUR PARISH MISSION THIS YEAR. Fr. John had some inspiring messages for us and many, many of you chose to participate, listen, and be willing to be changed. May the blessings of this mission remain with each person, and the entire parish for a long time.

For numerous reasons, we have decided NOT to host our usual Soup Suppers this year. We will still be celebrating Stations of the Cross on the Fridays of Lent. They will begin at 7:00 PM, and all are invited to get closer to the Lord during this season by joining us in this special devotion reminding us of the Lord's sacrifice for us. In lieu of the soup suppers, there will be a box available for donations throughout the entire season of Lent to help the poor in our region.

LENTEN MEDITATION BOOKLETS FOR SALE: We have a limited amount of Little Black Books available for sale for \$2.00 each. They include daily meditations for the entire season of Lent. There are also a small amount in Spanish. Get them at the Gift Shop.

OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL 2015. Today is the pew commitment opportunity for this year's Diocesan wide Our Catholic Appeal. The Bishop and the Diocesan Financial Committee have recognized how healthy and hard-working we have become as a parish and have responded positively to us again. Our goal for this year remains at the same level we have had for the past 2 years: \$51,120.00. This happened after a letter of appeal was sent regarding the original goal of \$69,066.00. They saw how great we were doing with YOUR generous Offertory enhancements and hard work at all of the fund-raising and decided to give us this break. I hope and pray that more of you respond to this year's appeal and that we might finally hit the goal. As you know, in 2014, we got close as 240 families pledged \$48,401.01. That is "only" 41% of the parish. Imagine if we had another 20% of our families take part with even a small donation or pledge...I'm sure it would finally get us over the top. PLEASE pray and contemplate very seriously your participation in this year's appeal. No gift is too small. Remember, as the theme for the campaign says: "We do ALL for the Glory of God!" Please show God your love and compassion for ALL of your brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Orlando by generously participating in this important appeal.

LAST CHANCE FOR PARISHIONERS TO PICK UP THEIR OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2015... Those who requested Tax Statements, please pick them up in the office lobby.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Sunday, March 22nd will be a Basket Fund-raiser AND a picnic at the Northeast Regional Park. Set the time aside from Noon-4:00 PM. WE will PROBABLY be doing something different with the food situation, so set your calendar and keep alert for future messages.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS--"Joyful Again", a retreat for widow and widowers at St. Pedro retreat center in Winter Park (March 28 & 29)...**St. Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy (the play)** Coming to Florida - February 16-28 at various locations...**Florida Catholic invites you to travel to Israel:** Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. M. Gonzalez! (October 7-15, 2015) for more information, please see our web site at www.stfaustina.org and click the link at the bottom of the page.

AHOY MATIES!!! COME JOIN US ON OUR NEXT FISHING TRIP on Sat. March 7th, 2015. We will be running a half-day fishing trip out of Clearwater Beach. For more information, please go to our web site at: www.stfaustina.org



Mass Intentions

February 14 to February 22

Sat. 2/14

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 1 Corin. 10:31-11:1 Mark 1:40-45

4 PM -- Vincent Kelly + (Celia & Jim Kelly)

6 PM -- Sue Epps + (Marty & Julie Pancerella)

Sun. 2/15

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

9 AM -- Jerry W. Hall + (Shirley A. Hall)

11 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)

7 PM--(espanol) -- Alfreda Rivera + (Evelyn Garcia)

Mon. 2/16 - 8 pm -- **NO MASS**

Genesis 4:1-25

Mark 8:11-13

Tues. 2/17 8 am -- Linda May + (Joe May)

Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-10

Mark 8:14-21

Wed. 2/18 - **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Joel 2:12-18 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 Matthew 6:1-18

8 am -- Denis Denomme + (Al Butterworth & Marie

Iannuzzelli)

Noon -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina

7 PM -- John Gonyo + (Maryann Hagerty)

Thurs. 2/19 - 8 am -- DeCarle Family--Special Intentions

(Lois Losole)

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Luke 9:22-25

Fri. 2/20 - 8 am -- Pete Kupec, Jr. + (13th Anniversary)

(Fr. Dave)

Isaiah 58:1-9

Matthew 9:14-15

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 7 PM

Sat. 2/21 **FIRST SUNDAY of LENT**

Genesis 9:8-15

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:12-15

4 PM -- John Cangialosi + (Celia & Jim Kelly)

6 PM -- Sue Epps + (Marty & Julie Pancerella)

Sun. 2/22

7:30 AM -- Doyle Elsass + (Ken & Lynda Schanen)

9 AM -- John Gonyo + (Joe & Marie Miele)

11 AM -- Barbara McKenly + (Norma Santiago)

7 PM--(espanol) -- Anna Victoria Ramos + (Mr. & Mrs. Paco)

Please pray for our former usher at the 4 PM Sat. Mass, George Daignault who died on Tuesday, Feb. 3rd. His funeral and committal were held up north. Please include his wife, Annette and their 2 daughters and entire family in your prayers.

Stewardship



In the last verse from today's Gospel from Mark, this simple statement is made: "...people kept coming to him from everywhere." Of course, Mark is speaking about Jesus, and the Gospel writer is making reference to the desire of people to be healed. Today's readings deal in large part with leprosy and lepers. There is a deeper meaning, as is often the case, in these references.

Leprosy is not something we know much about because we do not experience the disease the same way people did in Jesus' time. The latent point of the Gospel is that we are all in need of healing. We are aware that we are sinners, and the Church takes great care to let us know that penance and healing are a part of our faith.

Lent begins this week, and we need to avail ourselves of the opportunity for reconciliation. This is something we should do regularly, but certainly during the holy time preparing for Easter. Confession is a way we can return to God, and it is key that we acknowledge our sins with true sorrow before a priest. Pope Francis has said, "I cannot be baptized multiple times, but I can go to confession, and when I go to confession, I renew that grace of baptism."