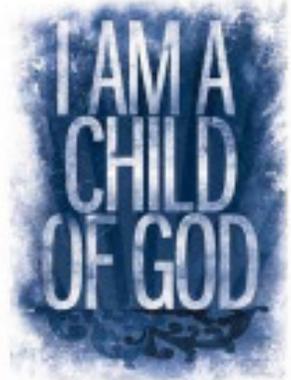


St. Faustina Catholic Church



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 April 25 to May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Clergy

Parochial Administrator

Father Dave Gillis

Assisting Priest

Father Fernando Gil

Mass Schedule

Saturday, 4 pm

Sunday, 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



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



Two images in today's readings describe our relationship to God. One is being His child. The other is being a sheep led by the Good Shepherd. Which is more appealing to you? Which would you rather be? Child of God or lamb? Let's take a look a little deeper into the meaning of both images.

In the Gospel, Jesus says, "I am the Good Shepherd." This speaks volumes to His hearers. First, they would remember the passage in Exodus when God told Moses that His name is "I AM." There are several times in the Gospel of John when Jesus says: "I AM." "I am the Alpha and Omega." "I am the bread of life." "I am the light of the world." "I am the resurrection and the life." "I am the way, and the truth and the life." "Before Abraham came to be, I am." "I am the Good Shepherd." "I am the gate." "I am the true vine." Each time Jesus said "I am," it seemed like blasphemy to the Jews, because He was claiming equality with God—the "I AM."

The Jews knew God said He would shepherd His people. The Jews would recall the passage in 34th chapter of the Prophet Ezekiel when God said that he was going to be the Good Shepherd of His sheep. He said the hirelings were caring for themselves instead of the sheep. The Lord said that He would look after and tend His sheep. He would rescue them and bring them home. "The lost I will seek out...the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal...shepherding them rightly." Of course, there is also Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."

When Jesus says: "I am the Good Shepherd," it was not the pleasant thing for the Jews that it is for us. Just as God had spoken to the unfaithful leaders in the Old Testament, so was Jesus chiding the leaders of His time. So, do I want to be a lamb in Jesus' flock? Certainly. He protects us. He laid down His life for us. He kept out the wolves and thieves who came to rob and steal and harm.

Do I want to be a "child of God?" YES. Scripture does not say that we are *like* God's child. It says that we **are** God's children **NOW**. There is a world of difference between being a creation of God and being God's child. Trees and mountains and birds and lambs are creations. WE are children. I can never really be a lamb. That is just a simile. However, I AM God's child NOW! That means that I have ALL the rights of inheritance of the King of kings. Thus, I can grow in age and wisdom and grace as Jesus did when he embraced humanity. It means that I can EXPECT the love and forgiveness of our Heavenly Father. It means that I can expect His discipline and suffering, but the strength to endure. It means that, when I go to heaven, I will not only be God's child, but that "we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" (Jn. 3:2).

There are times when I WANT to be a lamb, cradled, protected, healed, brought back when I stray. BUT, there is nothing to compare to the reality of being a child of God NOW. (Mary Lynne Rapien, Homily Helps, St. Anthony Messenger Press)

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

Father Dave

Faith Formation



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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

REPORT ON DIOCESAN FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: On Wed. 4/8, Fr. Ed Waters, Michael Zirkle (Finance Office), and Tom Ustler (Diocesan Real Estate) made a presentation to the Bishop and his entire Finance Committee on our behalf and our future. The presentation had 5 different proposals as possibilities for our future.



Proposal 5 was to close the parish and have all the folks re-absorbed by surrounding parishes—that was **SOUNDLY REJECTED. The parish is viable and will stay.**

Proposal 1 was our building committee's preliminary plans to build a multi-purpose, steel fabricated building that would include worship space, offices, meeting rooms, and a small social hall. That was also rejected. The reason that was rejected has to do with the recent history of 3 parishes in the Diocese that went that route, and found themselves in dire need of a larger church much more quickly than expected, and in financial difficulty very quickly.

So, the Diocese has instead accepted the proposal 2/3, that a permanent church (worship space only) be built in the next 3 years for St. Faustina's parish.

Details of size, etc. are unknown at this time and we will have some voice in the future plans. IN THE MEANTIME, the Finance Committee has also approved proposal 4, that **we will be moving from our present location** to another rental facility about a mile south of our property on Route 27. The new location will have a worship space that we believe will be able to hold all 400 of the chairs that we own, and everyone seated in the church will be able to see the altar and the pulpit. In addition, there is more than enough parking available to handle the crowds that we have been experiencing lately. There is also a suite adjacent to the worship space that will be rented for our offices. The Diocesan Real Estate agent is negotiating terms of the lease with the owner, but, needless to say, the costs will be higher than here **BECAUSE WE ARE GETTING MUCH MORE SPACE.** The worship space here (including the lobby) is only 3,200 square feet...the new place is just under 6,000 square feet...and the office area is almost equal to what we have now. The exact timing of all of this happening is unknown, but, there is a real expectation that when this lease ends on Nov. 30, 2015, we will NOT have to renew here.

While some of us are disappointed that we will still have to pay rent to someone else, the Church cannot be built overnight, and we would have to be somewhere for the next 3 ½ years while it is under construction. While our own Construction fund is inching near the \$1 Million mark, the Diocese will be giving us a loan to help us with the construction of the new Church. Many of you have been waiting since the Fall of 2006 for the Church to be erected, and have put up with disappointment and worshipping in some "strange" situations. That will be coming to an end soon...please be patient...please keep up your strong support of parish and Diocese...please plan on what **more** you may be able to do to make the dream come true.

TIME TO CELEBRATE...TIME TO SHOUT ALLELUIA.....

.....TIME TO THANK GOD AND ST. FAUSTINA FOR ALLOWING THIS NEXT STEP TO OCCUR!!!



As of 4/17, we have 198 families pledging \$41,544.00 and paying \$28,825.50 toward our goal of \$51,120.00. Participation is 39% of our 508 families. Many thanks to those who have participated.

April 12th Offering: \$9,324



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.



ATTENTION CRUISE-GOERS! An informational flyer is now posted on our website regarding our 2016 St. Faustina Cruise on Royal Caribbean's Vision of the Seas.

Inside cabins start at just \$615.31 per person INCLUDING taxes, fees and port expenses for this seven-night event. We will be going on a 7 Day cruise

leaving on Sat. Feb. 20, 2016 out of Tampa. Our ports will be Honduras, Belize, Costa Maya, Mexico, and Cozumel and back to Tampa on Sat. 2/27/16. To view the flyer, please go to: <http://www.stfaustina.org/2016parishcruiseinfo.html> and click on the PDF.

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH is May 1st. We will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from after the 8:00 AM Mass until closing with Benediction at 5:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet in the front office to spend some time with the Lord.

FINAL PREPARATION CLASS FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS AND THEIR PARENTS will take place on Saturday, May 2nd at 11 AM in the Church. Please be prompt.

PICNIC RESULTS: Now that Elaine has caught up with everything, we can give you the financial report. We had 440 people buy tickets at \$5 each for a total of \$2,200.00. Additional donations brought the income to \$2,304.00. Sonny's charged us \$11.99 per person for a total of \$5,275.60. We added \$300.00 gratuity for the final total of \$5,575.60...and \$100 to rent the pavilion for a total of \$5,675.60. That left a total of \$3,371.60 covered by the parish. As you know, I see this as a community building social event, so I don't mind the parish picking up the balance. Thanks for coming. A good time was had by all!!! The Basket Fund-raiser that was held in conjunction with the picnic earned \$3,419.00 for the Building Fund. MANY, MANY THANKS TO ALL!!!

CARRABBA'S DINNER RESULTS: Income from ticket sales was \$2,043.00. Carrabba's charged \$7.00 per person (158 total) for a bill of \$1,106.00. We added a \$200.00 gratuity for the final expense of \$1,306.00. Profit from ticket sales was \$737.00. The 2 50-50 winners donated their winnings back to the parish, so we made an additional \$505.00 there. MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED AND HELPED ORGANIZE THE EVENT...AND THANKS TO ALL WHO JOINED US ON April 10th for a delicious and fun event!!!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION will meet **EVERY Thursday of the month** after the 8 am mass. They are studying *Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen*.

The BAKE SALE is held the second weekend of every month.

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: \$976,169.00

(as of April 13)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITIES: Diromio's Pizza and Grill near Polo Park on Rte 27 south invites us back on Tuesday, April 28th all day. No Flyer Needed(although they are available at the church entrances), just mention us and we get 10% of your receipt....Sonny's Bar-B-Q down in Haines City invites us back on Tuesday, May 5th. Please help us increase that building fund by having a great meal at these restaurant partners.**Don't forget our regulars--Mandarin Garden** (Right next door) 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 and bring a postcard, the parish will get 10% of your receipt).



Mass Intentions

April 25 to May 3

Sat. 4/25

Acts 4:8-12 1 John 3:1-2 John 10:11-18

4 PM -- Margaret Hahn (dec) from Al Hahn

Sun. 4/26

9:00 AM -- Margaret Hahn + (Al Hahn)

11:00 AM -- Hillerie & Brian Szeles + (Mary Kay Miller)

7:00 PM--(espanol) --Special Intentions for Ines Goncalves

Mon. 4/27 -- 8 am -- NO MASS

Acts 11:1-8 John 10:1-10

Tues. 4/28 -- 8 am -- Philip Dezotell +

(Walter & Maggie Dezotell)

Acts 11:19-26 John 10:22-30

Wed. 4/29 -- 8 am -- Healing for Adam Cripps (Lois Losole)

Acts 12:24-13:5 John 12:44-50

Thurs. 4/30 -- 8 am -- Will Smith + (Mary Kay Miller)

Acts 13:13-25 John 13:16-20

Fri. 5/1 -- FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

8 am -- Healing for Elizabeth McConkey (Thomas Doherty)

Acts 13:26-33 John 14:1-6

Sat. 5/2

Acts 9:26-31 1 John 3:18-24 John 15:1-8

4 PM -- George Daignault + (John & Pat Friedrich)

Sun. 5/3

9:00 AM -- Intentions of Ines Goncalves (I. Goncalves)

11:00 AM -- Healing for Stephen Doherty (Thomas Doherty)

7:00 PM--(espanol) --Juan Villafane + (Evelyn Garcia)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONER,

Georgine Byrne, who died on Friday, 4/10.

She lived with her husband, Tom in Polo Park.

Keep him and his family in prayer. Services

and internment happened up North.



If you are NOT monitoring our Facebook page, you missed the announcement of the Diocesan Finance Committee Meeting, which was posted on APRIL 16. Stay on top of what is going on at St. Faustina Parish....YOUR PARISH....by "Liking" us on FB.

Find us on Facebook

Stewardship



Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday

of Easter (today) is also called

Good Shepherd Sunday. Christ

tells us in today's Gospel from

John, "I am the good shepherd,

and I know mine and mine know

me." The image of Christ as the

shepherd is one of the oldest in

the Church. Even in the

Catacombs there is an ancient drawing of Christ carrying a sheep

on his shoulders.

Sometimes it is difficult for us to view ourselves as sheep. There

is something passive and reliant in that image which may bother

our sense of independence. However, if we are honest with

ourselves, we know that we need the Lord's help and guidance.

An essential part of living a stewardship way of life is placing our

lives in the hands of our Good Shepherd nonetheless.

Throughout this Easter Season we celebrate that one mystery —

that Christ gave His life for us on the Cross. If we accept the fact

that He is our Savior and that He is our Shepherd, we are better

able to serve as shepherds to one another. Stewardship is a life

of giving self, a life of self-giving. We must constantly work to live

up to the Lord's expectations of us, but we also must always

know that He is our shepherd, our Good Shepherd, and He is

always there for us.