

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 May 2 to May 10

Fifth 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

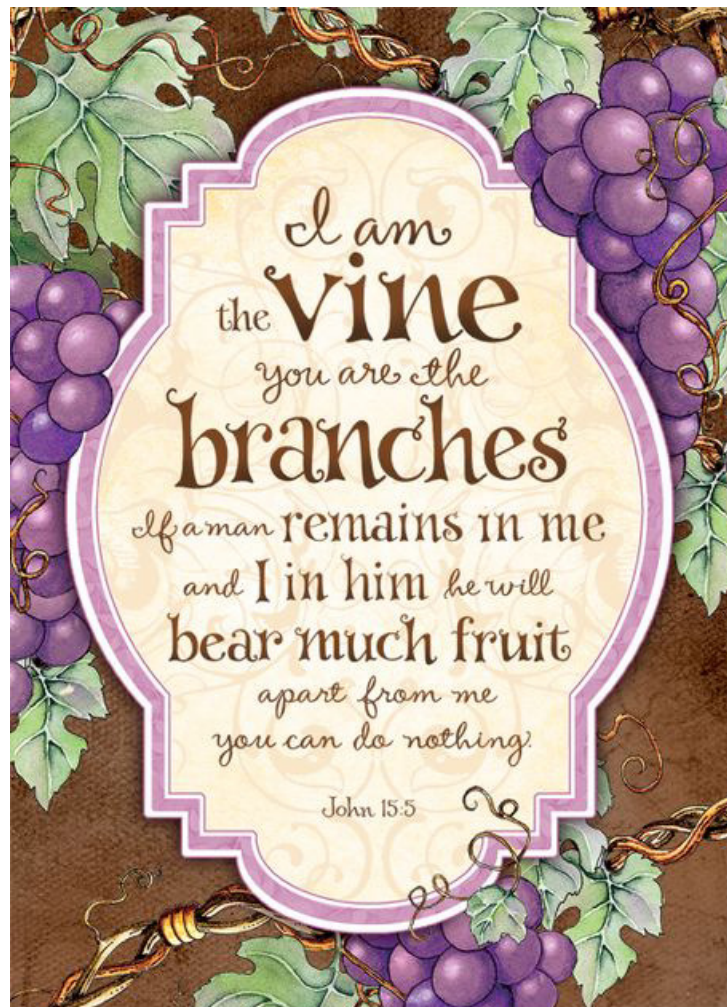
Wednesdays @ 3 pm

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



Hard as a rock, Cold as ice, Sharp as a knife. Some analogies are so clear that they need no explanation. They are down-to-earth examples that are easily understood by anyone. Jesus used analogies when He taught: yeast in dough, a mustard seed grown into a great bush, a shepherd finding a lost sheep, etc.

Jesus wanted those listening to be able to understand His teachings, so He used analogies.

In today's Gospel, He speaks of the life-giving connection between the vine and the branches. Anyone who has seen a vine, tree or bush can clearly understand what Jesus is saying. And yet, Jesus' rich analogy of the vine and the branches is an opportunity to dig deeper into this parable and unfold the deeper meaning and implications of our spiritual life.

I am the vine. My Father is the vine grower. This sets up an understanding of the relationships between the Father, the Son and us. Everything belongs to God. The Son is selected to grow and produce for the Father.

I am the vine. You are the branches. If we want to belong to God, we have to be attached to Christ. Attachment means we allow the life of Christ to flow into us through prayer and frequent reception of the sacraments.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. The purpose of our connection to Christ is clear: WE MUST BEAR FRUIT. This means good works, holy acts, kind deeds, etc.

...a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine... The only way that we can fulfill our purpose is to stay connected to Christ.

The Father takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit. A branch that does not bear

Fruit is worthless. The Father will purge every branch that is useless.

You are already pruned because of the word I spoke to you. The purpose, power and importance of the words of Jesus guide us so that we can bear fruit.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. Our attachment to Christ is a source of great blessing.

By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciple. We are given a clear understanding of how we honor and glorify God. We attach our lives to His Son and open our hearts to Him; we cooperate with God's grace and live according to His teaching. (Sunday Homilies, Diocese of Lansing)

The analogy has truly helped us to UNDERSTAND CLEARLY what is expected. BUT, the living up to this challenge is only possible as we receive the Body and Blood of the Lord to keep ourselves attached to the vine. As you receive Him...beg for the grace to bear fruit abundantly!!!

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

Father Dave



As of 4/24, we have 199 families pledging \$41,669.00 and paying \$25,202.70 toward our goal of \$51,120.00. Participation is 39.2% of our 508 families. Those who have not yet participated are asked to reconsider and give a pledge to the Diocesan ministries supported by this important appeal.

April 19th Offering

\$6,748



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: \$978,832 (as of April 20)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITIES: Sonny's Bar-B-Q down in Haines City invites us back on Tuesday, May 5th. Shula Burger invites us back on Thursday, May 14th from 11 AM to 9 PM. Please bring a flyer with you. They are located in the front strip of the Target shopping center on 192. **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). **DINE TO DONATE RESULTS--**We received a check from Gator's Dockside in Cagan's Crossing on 4/22 in the amount of \$113.26 for our 3/24 event. Many thanks to all.

NEW FUND-RAISER FOR BUILDING FUND: In the next couple of weeks, we will be offering a new type of fund-raiser for your possible participation. Robyn's Nest of Gifts-N-Treasures is a business owned by Joe D'Ambro, Jr. and Robyn Griffith who are parishioners here. You get a catalog from World Products Marketplace, full of articles for home and garden to keep in your possession and browse for 2 weeks. Using the order form on page 92 (or so) of the catalog you place your order, make payment in full including shipping to St Faustina Church and return it by May 31st. Orders will be placed and delivered to the parish within 10 days for pickup. (Even though the order form allows payment by Credit Card...for our purposes, we CANNOT take orders with them...ONLY Cash, Checks, or money orders please...To ST. FAUSTINA, please). There is a 30 day refund policy. Please browse through the catalog and help us if you can.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE SUNDAY EVENTS--A bit of a change in the Texas Sunday event... 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, that will count (in case you wanted to KEEP your bulletin). Either way, the parish will receive 10% of your receipt at the end of the month.

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.**



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. To see the results of this meeting, please go to our web page at: <http://www.stfaustina.org/buildingupdatehistory.html>

Here is an example of a devotion that you will find, daily, on our Facebook page:

"Fear of the Lord does not mean to be afraid of God. St. John tells us that where there is love, there is no fear. Rather, fear of the Lord is to stand in awe and wonder before the greatness of the Lord. It is to recognize that God is the creator and we are the creatures. Fear of the Lord should lead us to praise and worship." — Rev. Jude Winkler, OFM



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.



MOTHER'S DAY is coming on May 10 – If you would like to remember your mother, grandmother, or any other special mother-figure in your life, please take one of the envelopes from the congregational chairs, fill it out and return it by May 3. On Mother's Day, all the envelopes will be placed on the altar and we will pray for all the special mothers in our lives.

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 (there is, however, a \$35 transportation fee...per person...if you use the bus service). 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.

Please be as generous as you can be to the Catholic Communication Campaign Collection to be held on May 10th. This collection communicates the Gospel through Catholic social media activities and enriches our faith through podcasts, television, radio, and print media. Half of all proceeds remain in our diocese and support local needs. There IS an envelope in your box, but there will not be a second collection. Just drop it into the basket the first time.

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

Faith Formation

PLEASE PRAY FOR our First Communion Students. Twenty-two of our youngsters will be receiving the Lord for the first time this Saturday, May 9th at 11:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are welcome to attend, but please keep them in your prayers. Thanks go out to their parents, our catechists, and Ms. Marylu for their hard work at getting them prepared over the past year. It is a great day for the entire parish.

Natalie Alvarez...Martin Angel...Sebastian Angel...Samantha Castrillo...Milani Del Valle...Jordan Estevez...Tyler Estevez...Marc Flecha...Christian Gonzalez...Natalia Gonzalez...Iveth Inamagua...Jackie Inamagua...John Paul Kalinowski...Justin Mariscal...Vincent Mariscal...Carolina Martinez...Kiara Roman...Alanna Steinhauer...Diana Tirado...Anjelina Valencia...Tiffany Valencia...Ximena Villagomez

Congratulations to the following students for their accomplishments this year (and in some cases, the last two years).

First Communion 4/2/15:

Amries Abreu...Gracemar Ayala...Coral Del Mar Ayala...Adrian Ayala...German Baez...Edgar Castillo...Ricardo Gonzalez...Alyssa Howe...Stephanie Mancera...Jaylin Quinones...Alejandra Silvestri...Giovanni Silvestri

Baptism & First Communion 4/12/15:

Jose Espichan...Cynthia Jimenez Hernandez...Maricela Inamagua...Brian Tilano-Villalobos

Confirmation 4/19/15:

Amries Abreu...Ximena Carcamo



Mass Intentions

May 2 to May 10

Sat. 5/2

Acts 9:26-31 1 John 3:18-24 John 15:1-8
4 PM -- George Dagnault + (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)

Mon. 5/4 -- 8 am -- **NO MASS**

Acts 14:5-8 John 14:21-26
Tues. 5/5 -- 8 am -- Harold Witten + (Gob & Betty Kluck)
Acts 14:19-28 John 14:27-31

Wed. 5/6 -- 8 am -- Lorraine Mills + (Kathleen M. Crowe)
Acts 15:1-6 John 15:1-8

Thurs. 5/7 -- 8 am -- Healing for Fr. John Doyle (St. Faustina's Seniors)
Acts 15:7-21 John 15:9-11

Fri. 5/8 -- 8 am -- Donald Crowe + (Kathleen M. Crowe)
Acts 15:22-31 John 15:12-17

Sat. 5/9

Acts 10:25-48 1 John 4:7-10 John 15:9-17
11 am -- First Holy Communion Class intentions
4 PM -- Flora Goncalves + (Ines Goncalves)
Sun. 5/10 **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**
9:00 AM -- Carol Schanen + (Ken & Lynda Schanen)
11:00 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Ismael Aponte + (Roberto Aponte)

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



Stewardship



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus reminds us how important each and every one of us is when He says, "I am the vine; you are the branches." One of the central ideas in the spirituality of stewardship is how crucial each person is to the success and effectiveness of the community. Of course, together we can do so much more than each of us can individually.

Are you using your gifts? Are you using your gifts to build the community and to serve others? Jesus speaks of His Father "pruning" the branches that do not bear fruit. As is often the case in ancient Greek, a word can have two meanings. The word for "prune" is also the word for "cleanse." That is the point the Lord is most likely making. Until we are "cleansed," until we have sought conversion and change with the help of God, we are not able to fully fulfill our covenants with God.

Stewardship, of course, is a call to each of us to respond to our many gifts with thanksgiving and service. Fruits bear seeds within them. Our response to God's call is to allow our seeds to produce more fruit. The author Robert Louis Stevenson said, "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant." As our Easter season continues, we need to make sure we are attached to the vine of the Lord, and that we are planting seeds.