

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

**ASCENSION
of
Our LORD**

Week of May 7 to May 15

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Clergy

Parochial Administrator

Father Dave Gillis

Assisting Priest

Father Fernando Gil

Mass Schedule

Saturday, 4 pm

Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, & 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



Happy Mother's Day

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*

**WELCOME
TO OUR CHURCH!!**

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



Human beings like a certain measure of stability and predictability. When the future doesn't develop as they expect, this upsets them. As to the disciples at the Ascension, they expected an earthly restoration of the downtrodden kingdom of Israel. They certainly weren't expecting Jesus' departure. Two lessons we draw from this passage are: 1) we should focus on the words of the Lord, and 2) we should gather in

prayer for the assistance of His Spirit.

Life has its tumultuous periods: a marriage fails, a job is lost, a dear friend dies unexpectedly. And when such tragedies strike, it is easy to lose our religious bearings and succumb to doubts about God's providential engagement with us. It is at such moments that we must redouble our efforts to hear Christ's voice as it is channeled through the Scriptures, liturgy, and teachings of the Church. God makes no mistakes, He commits no faults, nothing eludes His control.

The first lesson this feast offers is that we must strive to recall what the Lord has taught us. The disciples' disorientation at the Lord's disappearance—first from the tomb, then from the earth—arises because the trauma of the present moment makes them forget what Jesus TOLD them. Had they remembered, they would not have been shocked or distressed. Returning to the words of God's Son, we see that God's purposes CAN be accomplished during chaotic times. Rather, in some instances their accordance with the divine plan becomes remarkably apparent after prayerful study.

Jesus fully knows our human weakness, our challenges, and sufferings. Many of us overlook that Jesus speaks to us through the Sacred Scriptures. Right on the shelf in our home is a Bible that we may not have opened in a long time. When you read just a small passage, slowly, and sit with it, you WILL realize how Jesus talks to us. He invites us to take up His precious words in the Scriptures and savor them. Be not afraid to talk to Jesus about your concerns, and be ready to listen to Him as He talks lovingly to you.

Far from being pessimistic and seeing only darkness, we who know the true meaning of the feast of the Ascension of the Lord into heaven are filled with hope and boldness! If Jesus ascended into heaven, He did so precisely in order to send, with the Father, the promised Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit, and He alone, who vivifies the Body of the Church, makes it grow, and even resurrects it. The personal body of Jesus disappears from view in order that His Mystical Body might appear to us, thanks to the sending of the promised Holy Spirit.

Why would the disciples of the Lord, filled by the grace of God, NOT realize that this departure was already a return? The day of the ascension of the Lord, should have brought joy because it was the NEXT STAGE of God's plan.

You might say, "but it is too difficult," or "not realistic," or "too hard to believe all of this." But, God has given us every possible help that we could ask for. If it seems too difficult, that shows we are not using the help that God has given us: above all, the Eucharist which we share, the word of God in Scriptures, and the sacraments. They are all there, waiting for us. If we offer ourselves to God, then why should we be afraid? All things are in His hands! (Brian P. Maloney, OFM Homily Helps, St. Anthony Messenger Press.)

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

Father Dave



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: \$1,233,074
(as of April 24, 2016)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY: ALL WEEK LONG at IHOP on Rte 27 in Clermont. Monday, May 9 through Friday, May 13 ANY TIME OF THE DAY. Please pick up a flyer and present it to your server, and we will receive 15% of whatever you eat and drink at ANY meal those days. It may be a bit of a trip to go north, but it is definitely worth your while. Please help us 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 to **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:** On 4/26, we received a check from Devenney's Iris Pub in the amount of \$250.00 for our March 29th event. **MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!!** Please continue to patronize these wonderful business partners of ours.

Celebrate May by Hosting The Pilgrim Virgin Mary

Celebrate May, the month that the Catholic Church dedicates to our Blessed Virgin Mother, the Rosary, the Respect for Life by hosting the Pilgrim Virgin Mary, please visit our website at:

www.stfaustina.org/completeministrylist/pilgrimvirginsvisits.html



CARRABBA'S DINNER FINANCIAL REPORT: Back on April 7th, our dinner at Citrus Highlands clubhouse garnered us a total of \$818.40. The total ticket sales income was \$2,235.00 @ \$10 + 223 ½ tickets sold(?) We were billed by Carrabba's for 232 dinners at \$7 for a total of \$1,624.00. I added a 15% tip which made the total expense \$1,867.60. Our profit included \$367.40 from ticket sales; \$144.00 from the basket raffle; \$175.00 from the 50-50 at first seating; \$133.00 from 50-50 at second seating. Total profit came to \$818.40. **MANY, MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED.** We were able to keep expenses down due to the donations from the businesses & parishioners listed in the 4/24 bulletin. **AGAIN, thanks to all of our volunteers who made this event possible.**

COME SAIL AWAY WITH ST. FAUSTINA'S WONDERFUL FOLKS

On Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017 through Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017, join us on the Beautiful Royal Caribbean OASIS OF THE SEAS! The ship will sail from Port Canaveral to Labadee, Haiti, Falmouth, Jamaica and Cozumel, Mexico before returning to Canaveral. This 7 night cruise has 3 days at sea, which you will be happy for because the OASIS is a destination in itself. There is so much to see and so many things to do on the ship. Contact Debbie at (407) 791-2444 for more information. St. Faustina's church does use this as both a social event and a small fund-raiser for the parish.

MEMORIALIZING OPPORTUNITIES are still available. If you are interested in memorializing one of chairs, please contact the office.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP THE PARISH: Eiana Villarta and Kim Nigreli, 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.

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.



change. Then all bottles will be returned on Father's Day weekend and we will pass the proceeds to those good folks in Clermont.

MANY, MANY THANKS TO ONE OF OUR PARISH FAMILIES who have recently donated a new set of Stations of the Cross for our parish. We hope and pray that as you pray these stations and get inspired again by the LOVE the Lord has for us...that you will also pray for these generous folks and their intentions.

ALERT TO THE 4:00 PM Mass-goers: On Sat. May 21st, Bishop Noonan will be present to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation for our 5 teens and 1 adult. All are welcome to attend...but, please know, there will be some seats reserved for our Confirmandi and their families. Please pray for these young people that the Holy Spirit will fill them and stay with them!**4TH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF**

4TH DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS of Corpus Christi parish has placed a box outside the usher's room in the church to collect "used" sneakers and athletic shoes. They have a company that will take these shoes and do some sort of recycling of the materials left after use. They will receive some financial reward from the company. SO, instead of tossing those old, used sneakers in the garbage...drop them in the box. (You may want to tie them in a plastic bag to cut down on the "smell" in the box...LOL).

Respect for Life Articles for May



May is the month of the Blessed Mother, the Rosary and of Respect for Life. To celebrate our Christian Respect for Life, in honor of Our Blessed Mother and the Rosary, we have reprinted a series of articles (in both Spanish and English) on our website, www.stfaustina.org (click on the Pro-Life link on the right side of the page). Each week in the bulletin there will be a Respect for Life quote that encourages you to pray for all life. Please take some time to go to our website and read these important articles.

The second article in the series is entitled, "A Tribute to Mothers on Mother's Day".

"The fight for the right to life is not the cause of a special few, but the cause of every man, woman and child who cares not only about his or her own family, but the whole family of man." *Dr. Mildred Jefferson*

NEWS FROM BISHOP NOONAN--On Saturday, May 28 at St. James Cathedral (215 N. Orange Avenue in Orlando) you are invited to attend the ordination to the priesthood of transitional deacons--Martin Nguyen and Luis Salazar--The Mass will begin at 10:00 a.m. **On SUNDAY, MAY 29th The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.** Join Catholics from across the Diocese of Orlando to publicly express our belief in Jesus Christ, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop Noonan will lead the procession at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe (8300 Vineland Ave. in Orlando) as participants pray, sing and reflect on the Mystery of the Most Holy Eucharist. The procession will follow the 6:00 p.m. Mass. For more information visit: www.orlandodiocese.org/CorpusChristi

ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES--Celebrate Mother's Day by praying at least one Rosary on May 7 and/or 8. To pledge one or more Rosaries sign up at: www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org

BAKE SALES are the second weekend of the month.



Mass Intentions

May 7 to May 15, 2016

- Sat. 5/7 SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**
Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:17-23 Luke 24:46-53
11 AM -- First Communion Class
4 PM -- Living & Deceased Parishioners
- Sun. 5/8 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**
8:00 AM -- Living & Deceased Mothers of Parish
9:30 AM -- Living & Deceased Mothers of Parish
11:00 AM -- Living & Deceased Mothers of Parish
7:00 PM -- (espanol) Living & Deceased Mothers of Parish
- Mon. 5/9 NO MASS**
Acts 19:1-8 John 16:29-33
- Tues. 5/10 -- 8 AM-- Alma Smith + (Debra & Bruce Bergeron)**
Acts 20:17-27 John 17:1-11
- Wed. 5/11 -- 8 AM-- Richard Schultz + (Carol LaMendola)**
Acts 20:28-38 John 17:11-19
- Thurs. 5/12 -- 8 AM -- Deceased Members of Arroyo & Dorschuck Families (Carol Arroyo)**
Acts 23:6-11 John 17:20-26
- Fri. 5/13 -- 8 AM -- Donald Jones + (Russell Perine)**
Acts 25:13-21 John 21:15-19
- Sat. 5/14 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY**
Acts 2:1-11 1 Corinthians 12:3-13 John 20:19-23
4 PM -- Tony Borges + (Jo Borges)
- Sun. 5/15**
8:00 AM -- Healing for Marlene Calvin (Leo F. Calvin)
9:30 AM -- Intentions of Ines Goncalves (Ines)
11:00 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (Thomas Doherty)
7:00 PM -- (espanol) Viky Fajardo + (Fajardo family)



April 24th Offertory: \$8,779
Mission Cooperative: \$4,966
Seminarians: \$534
April 17th Offertory: \$7,232

OCA update for 4/29/16 -- We have 281 of our 500 (56.2% of our parish). Pledging \$68,365.00 and paying \$36,525.33 toward our goal of \$45,000. **MANY MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED.**

Stewardship



On this Seventh Sunday of Easter, most Catholics in the United States also celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. Traditionally, Ascension Thursday occurred 40 days after Easter (May 5 this year); however, most dioceses in the U.S.

have transferred this Holy Day of Obligation to the Sunday following it, which this year is today.

Christ's Ascension is important to us. It is one of our core beliefs, to the extent that when we profess our faith at Mass, regardless which Creed we use, we declare, "He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father." To deny Christ's Ascension is to deny His Resurrection. Before His Ascension, which is described in our First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus tells His followers, "...you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

We, too, have been baptized and imbued with the Holy Spirit. This Third Member of the Holy Trinity is the aspect of God that lives and empowers each of us. We may think that the Holy Spirit has more work to do among those who do not believe, but there is also considerable work to be done among those of us who do believe. We are called to serve; we are called to discipleship; we are called to lives of stewardship; we are reminded of that in all of today's readings.

In his homily on the Ascension of Christ last year, Pope Francis said, "The Ascension tells us He is with God the Father, where He always intercedes in our favor."