



Father Dave's Corner

Our Christian vocation is a call to share and participate in the mission of Christ. To become a follower of Jesus and answer God's call means more than keeping the commandments.

It means that one's life is directed to waiting and listening for the guidance of God.

The phrase *Here I am, Lord* echoes repeatedly throughout our first reading today and also our psalm response. And in the 2nd reading and again in the Gospel, we see examples of what life should look like for us as Catholic Christians when we understand our faith as an invitation to place ourselves at God's disposal as He sees fit. We are to commit our entire being to the Lord's service, and we follow the example of the first disciples in leaving everything behind to walk closely with Jesus. AS Pope Francis says so eloquently: "It means putting innocence in the place of malice, love in the place of force, humility in the place of pride, service in the place of prestige. It is GOOD WORK!"

But the phrase *Here I am, Lord* isn't just another command to recite. It's our "mission statement" as Catholic Christians who, by virtue of baptism, are incorporated into the Body of Christ as members of the Church. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, we are a community of believers that is, "sent out into the whole world. All members of the Church share in this mission, though in various ways." (CCC 863)

So how do we live our faith and put it into practice? Three important lessons can be extracted directly from the phrase *Here I am, Lord*. First, consider that the phrase begins with the word HERE. This is a reminder that God calls us to live, to love, and to serve others right where we are. One need not travel great distances to look for opportunities to recognize God's presence because wherever we are, wherever we go, that's where we'll find Christ present in the people right in front of us.

Second, the phrase contains the word I. This is a reminder that the call to give witness to our faith in our daily lives isn't just something for others to be concerned about, but it's our call as well. No matter who we are, where we're from and what we've done, God equips each and every one of us with unique gifts and talents that we can offer in the service of building up His kingdom on earth.

Finally, the phrase concludes with the words I am. This implies that the call to live out our baptism and put our faith into practice isn't just something we should have done yesterday, or a task we can put off until tomorrow. No, we have only now, today, this moment as a gift from God and a gift we can offer back to God. So let's not wait until we think we have it all together. Let's begin today to let God work in, on, with and through us to accomplish His will for us as individuals as well as for our world.

So, whenever you come forward to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord, please respond with all of your heart, "Here I am, Lord!" You will be nourished and strengthened by His sacred meal to go forth and do God's will as the disciples Christ desires today. (Homilies, Diocese of Lansing, MI)

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

Father Dave

January 4th Offertory:

\$8,853

Solomnity of Mary:

\$2,699



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: \$891,232

(as of January 4)

ALL YOU CAN EAT ITALIAN DINNER on Today, Jan. 18, at Windmill Village Clubhouse, 427 Windmill Blvd. Davenport...2 seatings: 2:00-4:00 PM and 5:30-7:30 PM. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$6 for children under 13. Tickets will be available at the door for last minute folks. DIRECTIONS: WINDMILL VILLAGE IS SOUTH ON 27 FROM THE CHURCH. PAST POLO PARK TO Traffic Light for Northeast Regional Park...make a right at the light, go to a "dead end" and make a right into the development. Go about a block and the clubhouse is on the left side. Parking is scarce, so try to carpool.

DINE TO DONATE: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 from 3:30-9:00 PM at Texas Roadhouse. No flyer needed, just drop your receipt in the box at the hostess stand. Parish gets 10% of your meal for the building fund. **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 our 2 events at Sonny's on Nov. 5th and Nov. 30th for a total of \$701.01. MANY THANKS for your extra effort in traveling south to Haines City.

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 (hopefully St. Faustina's) of .5% of every eligible purchase you make. AmazonSmile is the SAME Amazon...same products, same prices, same service. 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

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 the week of the parish mission, (2/3 and 2/4), the week of Ash Wednesday, (2/17 and 2/18) and 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

Do you have special intentions that you would like others to pray for? **If so, you are welcome to join the St. Faustina Decade a Day Ministry.** 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.

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 _____

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.

Our Church Mission

Mark on your calendar this year's Parish Mission-- please be sure to set aside time to join us at this year's Parish Mission on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Feb. 2-4 with Father **John Anglin, OFM**. THE THEME OF THE MISSION: **The Filling the World with the Gospel of Christ**-In a world torn by war,

violence and injustice and in a Church dealing with scandal and declining membership. The call that came to Francis of Assisi 800 years ago—"Go, rebuild My House" is as vital and timely today in this new millennium as it was in the 13th century world of Francis. **Mass each morning at 8:00 AM** will last about 45 minutes with a homily including the Mission Theme. There will be an **evening Service at 7:00 PM** (not mass), that will also include the Mission Theme. **DAY ONE- MONDAY, FEB. 2nd: God comes to us in humble love.** **DAY TWO: Tuesday, Feb. 3rd: The Cross: A gift of love and forgiveness.** **DAY THREE: Wednesday, Feb. 4th: The Cross: Source of meaning in our suffering.** **PLEASE SET ASIDE THESE 3 DAYS TO HELP YOU GET YOUR SPIRITUAL HOUSE IN ORDER AS WE PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON OF LENT.** For COMPLETE information on each of the day's themes and background on Father Anglin, please go to our web site at: www.stfaustina.org click on the **PARISH MISSION link**.

Last Meeting for Cruise goes will be held THIS FRIDAY, Jan. 23rd at 7:00 PM in the Church. Please come with your last minute questions and get your last minute directions.



Announcements

TO ALL RECENTLY ARRIVED SNOWBIRDS: If you are interested in the present progress of our Building project, see Fr. Dave for a copy of the November 30, 2014 bulletin. In his Corner, there is the most recent update on where we stand with the project.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, 1/24 at 11 AM. They and their families will join for a Service in the Church. All parishioners are invited to attend; PLEASE pray for them as they continue their journey through the Sacraments of the Church.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS --To find out more about the **March 7th Fishing Trip**, please see our web site at www.stfaustina.org

BISHOP JOHN NOONAN INVITES US TO JOIN HIM in concelebrating the **Mass commemorating World Day for Consecrated Life on January 31 at 11:00 a.m. in the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe.** For more information, please go to our web site at: www.stfaustina.org click on the **Diocese of Orlando link**.

SING TO HIM, SING HIS PRAISE (1 Chronicles 16:9) and **join St. Faustina's Contemporary Music Ministry!** Calling our parish high school teens and young adults (18-39) to lift your voice and sing with us at the 6pm Saturday Mass which will be returning January 3 -April 11, 2015. Rehearsals beginning soon. **Contact Bob & Cheryl via email at bobandcheryl@stfaustina.org** to join.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS--check out our web site, www.stfaustina.org to see activities that might interest you from around the community. **This week's highlights include** a nationally acclaimed Catholic entertainer and motivational storyteller who is coming to Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Ocala and Morning Star Catholic School serving children with special needs will be hosting an Open House.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION meets the second Thursday of the month after the 8 am mass.



Mass Intentions

January 17 to January 25

Sat. 1/17

1 Samuel 3:3-19 1 Corinthians 6:13-20 John 1:35-42

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

6 PM -- John Gonyo + (Clayetta Gonyo)

Sun. 1/18

7:30 AM -- Nancy Houck + (Rosemary Satterlee)

9 AM -- Greg Haley + (Julie Haley)

11 AM -- Horman Buckley + 1 yr Anniv (Sophia Buckley)

7 PM--(espanol)--Dora Ulloa De Ramirez + (Martha Ramirez)

Mon. 1/19 - 8 pm -- **NO MASS**

Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 2:18-22

Tues. 1/20 8 am -- Louis Zezza + (George & Donna Cuttita)

Hebrews 6:10-20 Mark 2:23-28

Wed. 1/21 - 8 am -- St. Faustina Parishioners' Intentions

Hebrews: 7:1-17 Mark 3:1-6

Thurs. 1/22 - 8 am -- Stephen, Eleanor & Steve Verostko + (Mary Ann Heary)

Hebrews 7:25-8:6 Mark 3:7-12

Fri. 1/23 - 8 am -- Ask 10 Benefactors

Hebrews 8:6-13 Mark 3:13-19

Sat. 1/24

Jonah 3:1-10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

4 PM -- Anthony Borges + (Hank and Gloria Pozzuoli)

6 PM -- Christopher Dick + (The Dick family)

Sun. 1/25

7:30 AM -- John Gonyo + (Ernest Loving)

9 AM -- Greg Haley + (Julie Haley)

11 AM -- Robert Doherty + (Jo Doherty)

7 PM--(espanol) -- Living & Deceased parishioners

PLEASE PRAY for John Gonyo, a parishioner from Bass Lake who died back in mid-December. His Memorial Mass was celebrated Jan. 8th. Keep his wife, Clay and her family in your prayers as well.



Stewardship



A popular hymn used in many Catholic churches is *Here I am Lord*. That hymn is based in part on our first reading from the Book of Samuel. The Lord wants us to respond just the way Samuel does in the reading. God calls each of us to discipleship through lives of stewardship.

Just as Samuel was confused, we, too, may fail to understand what God is calling us to at times. Nevertheless, just like Samuel we do need to respond "Here I am Lord." That is not always easy and it can be uncomfortable at times. Eli instructs Samuel to respond "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel does so and "the Lord was with him."

Our challenge is first to hear God's call. It is there always, but we must listen for it. Then we need to respond to that call, and we need to respond in ways that show we recognize that the call is to service and the call is for us to be disciples. It is only implied initially, but it is clear that the Lord is calling Samuel by name. In the same way God calls each of us by name. We need to hear that as Samuel did, and we need to respond as Samuel did, "Here I am Lord. I come to do your will."



Don't forget to access our Facebook page from your page, St. Faustina Catholic Church. It features daily devotions and parish news.