

St. Faustina Catholic Church



Week of Dec. 5 to Dec. 13

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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*; Kelly Mucci, *Music Ministry*



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.

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

Web Site: www.stfaustina.org

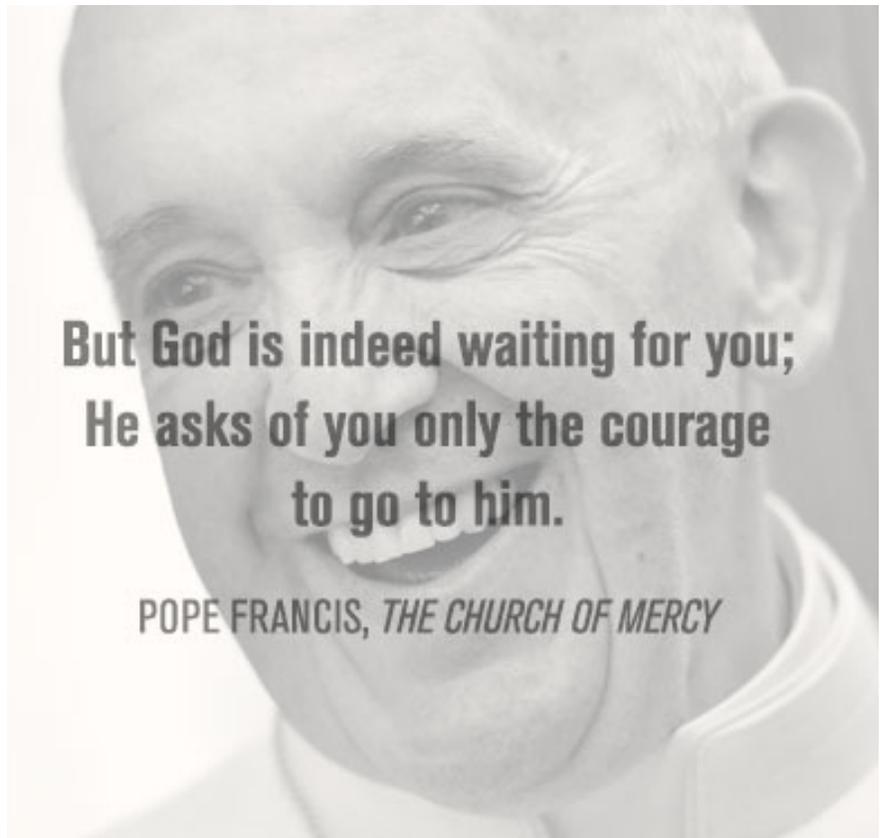
Feast of the Immaculate
Conception



**Holy Day
of Obligation**

Dec. 7-8

(See Mass Schedule)



Father Dave's Corner



Based upon the readings for this Second Sunday of Advent, we can almost summarize them from the First Reading to the Gospel, as **Joy** in the Coming; **Thanksgiving** for the Coming; and **Repentance** and **Preparation** for the Coming. That also more or less recaps what Advent is all about for us as Catholics. We are preparing both for the birth of Christ, His arrival at Christmas, as well as making an effort to prepare for the

Lord's Second Coming. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, (#524) "When the Church celebrates the Liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His second coming."

Our 1st reading today is from the Book of Baruch. Considered a major prophet by the Church, Baruch was the assistant to the prophet, Jeremiah. His book is among the shortest in the Bible, Old or New Testament, with only 6 chapters and a few more than 200 words. Our particular reading today is part of an ode, a poem, written to extol the predicted saving grace of the Messiah. There are actually 4 different poems in this chapter of Baruch, and each opens with the declaration "TAKE COURAGE."

He tells us of the coming of Christ and how that will indeed be our "saving grace." Note the poetic nature of this passage: "The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of His glory." Christmas is a time for poems and songs. Baruch tells us that Christ is coming.

St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians reminds us of the importance of prayer and of his confidence in us and the Philippians: "I am confident of this; that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." The "day of Christ Jesus" is what the purpose of Advent preparation is all about. Just as Paul "prays constantly" we, too, must find times and ways of praying—every day, multiple times, if possible. It is through prayer that the Lord becomes a key part of our lives. The "good work" to which Paul refers will not and cannot be entirely and perfectly completed until Christ comes again. In the meantime, prayer and thanksgiving are paramount. This is a time for us to seek the "fruit of righteousness" that Paul sees necessary for us to be good stewards and Disciples of Christ.

St. John the Baptist is the harbinger of Jesus Christ. In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#523) we are told "St. John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare His way." On this 2nd Sunday of Advent, if we have not already, we need to also prepare for the way of Christ. John the Baptist had one consistent message and that had to do with "repentance." This is another important phase of our Advent journeys. For the Baptist, repentance is NOT an attitude, not something where we feel remorse in our hearts; it is something ACTIVE. It involves conversion and change. There are MANY ways we can alter the direction of our lives so that we serve more AND better...so that we become more like Christ. (Stewardship Reflection on Readings-Cath. Stewardship Consultants.)

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

Father Dave

Support us when you shop this holiday

Amazon donates when you shop at smile.amazon.com.

amazon smile



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

FINAL CRUISE PAYMENTS FOR THE FEBRUARY cruise are due by 5:00 PM on Dec. 7, 2015.

Call Royal Caribbean @ 1-800-465-3595 or Debbie Bergeron 407-791-2444. Cabins are still available.



CONSTRUCTION FUND BALANCE IS: \$1,087,078 (as of Monday, November 23, 2015)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY: Tuesday, Dec. 8th at Devenney's Irish Pub at the intersection of Rte 27 and Rte 192 from 4:00 until 10:00 PM. Flyers are available at the entrances of the church. Please give the flyer to your server before ordering and the parish will receive 10% for our building fund. **PLEASE 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 we will get 10%. **Dine to Donate Result:** We received a check in the amount of \$100.00 from Devenney's Irish Pub & Restaurant for our event on Tuesday, Oct. 27th. Thanks to all who participated and please consider patronizing these folks at other times as well.

NEW ONLINE FUND-RAISER--See our website: <http://www.stfaustina.org/earncashback.html> to see and participate in St. Faustina's partnership with Shop.Com's Non Profit Program designed to help us raise more funds for the Construction Project. Just do your shopping as you normally would, but order your items through St. Faustina's web page. You get your items, and some great deals, some Cash back, and the parish benefits as well. There is a flyer in the office (and on our website) that takes you step by step through the sign-up process. Our Shop Consultant is Francis Mulhern and you can call him with any questions at (267-275-6182).

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, that will count The parish will receive 10% of your receipt.

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

As 2015 draws to a close, you may be prayerfully considering how God can lead you to support St. Faustina Parish. The following information is provided to help you manage your gifts so they can qualify as 2015 donations with the IRS.

IN PERSON: The Parish Office will be open until 12:00pm (noon) on Thursday, December 31 to receive contributions that will qualify as a 2015 donation.

BY MAIL: Any donations received via mail will be treated as a 2015 donation if the postmark on the envelope is on or before December 31, 2015.

ONLINE GIVING: Donations made using Online Giving must have a "Process Date" on or before December 31 in order to qualify as a 2015 donation. If you have entered a transaction that will process close to year-end, you can login in to see if you want to make any adjustments to your scheduled process date.

Any donations that are dropped into the collection basket at New Year's Eve Mass will be treated as 2016 contributions. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Goth at the Parish Office.

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.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES AND GREETINGS HAVE BEEN MAILED to each parishioners home this past week. Due to the uncertainty of everything with the move, we need you to check our St. Faustina website...and keep alert to announcements in bulletin and verbals

at Mass. **ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE will be held at our present location, Zak Center, on Thursday, Dec. 17th at 7:00 PM.** We hope to have 7-8 priests available for your pre-Christmas reconciliation. The 2015 Christmas schedule can be found at:

<http://www.stfaustina.org/2015christmasschedule.html>

USCCB COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS: There is an envelope in your box for the National Collection for Retired Religious (this is for all those generous Sisters, brothers, and priests who taught and served us in the past-NOT for Orlando Priests as in August). There will be NO second collection. Just drop the envelope in the first basket. Please be as generous as you can and "Share in the Care" to show your appreciation to them.

PRE-CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKET will run until **TOMORROW**, Sunday, Dec. 6th. There will be 3 prizes...1st prize is two(2) One-Day Disney park hopper Passes & \$200 cash; 2nd prize is two (2) One-Day Disney park hopper passes & \$100 cash; 3rd prize is 10% of money collected. Cost is \$2.00 per ticket or 3 for \$5.00. Need NOT be present to win. Drawing will take place after the 11 AM Mass.

HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION Tuesday, Dec. 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and all Catholics are obliged to attend Mass somewhere. Due to the fact that we have Faith Formation Classes HERE, we will offer a Vigil Mass on Monday, Dec. 7th at 6:00 PM and a morning Mass on Tuesday, at 8:00 AM. If you can't make it here, please find a church where you can fulfill your obligation.

ANGEL TREE--Once again St. Faustina's will support the Lake County Pregnancy and Family Care Center in Clermont. This year the center has 125 clients (expectant moms and younger children) Please select a colored tag from the Angel Tree, purchase a gift listed on the Wish List and **RETURN NO LATER THAN Dec. 13th** to the parish **UNWRAPPED** please. We will prepare and deliver the gifts to the Center.

CLASS FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION parents and children will be held on Monday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 PM in the Church. At least one parent and the children are expected to attend.

UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION: As of 11/24, the fire alarm system was being installed. The AC units have been installed on the roof and are ready for power to be turned on. Cabinetry has been completed in the sacristy. Sound system wiring was to be started on 11/30. Lights have been placed in the ceiling grid. Church was scheduled to be painted 11/30. **As already mentioned--The construction site is OFF LIMITS to parishioners and visitors!!! DO NOT TRY TO ENTER THE SITE TO INSPECT THE WORK YOURSELF! MANY THANKS FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**

COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED to help plan the move from here to the new place. "Some" of the smaller items will be transported in trucks, SUV's, trailers owned by parishioners...and loaded and unloaded by parishioners. The LARGER items will be moved by a professional company, with young backs. The committees have organized things so that there is a minimum of confusion. There is a marketing committee who are working on the different ways to get the word out to the folks in the neighborhood that we have moved and hopefully get more of our permanent residents to come to us. They will also be delivering flyers to the different resorts, hotels, community clubhouses, etc. If anyone would like to offer their time to help with any of these items, please call the parish office and give your name, your phone number, and the type of help you would like to offer: e.g. a truck...light lifting...delivery of flyers, etc. One of the committee chairs will contact you to let you know when we will need your help. **BY THE WAY**, we can't give you any dates when we will be doing this until we get the okay from contractor and inspectors.



Mass Intentions

December 5 to December 13

Sat. 12/5 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:4-11 Luke 3:1-6
4 PM -- Intentions of Ines Goncalves (Ines)

Sun. 12/6

9:00 AM -- Flora Goncalves + (Ines Goncalves)
11:00 AM -- Fr. Michael Danek + (Carol Arroyo)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Living and Deceased members of St. Faustina Parish

Mon. 12/7 VIGIL of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

6 pm -- Peggy Stoffel + (St. Faustina Prayer Group)
Isaiah 35:1-10 Luke 5:17-28

Tues. 12/8 -- SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8 am -- Clara Meyer + 11th Ann. (Fr. Dave)
Genesis 3:9-20 Ephesians 1:3-12 Luke 1:26-38

Wed. 12/9 -- 8 am -- Kevin J. Kalinowski +

birthday remembrance (Family)
Isaiah 40:25-31 Matthew 11:28-30

Thurs. 12/10 -- 8 am -- Stephen Reyes +

(Rosemary Satterlee)
Isaiah 41:13-20 Matthew 11:11-15

Fri. 12/11 FEAST of OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

8 am -- James Georgi + (Edith Giunti)
Zechariah 2:14-17 Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6 Luke 1:39-47

Sat. 12/12 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zephaniah 3:4-18 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

4 PM -- Joan Guglielmo + (Celia & Jim Kelly)

Sun. 12/13

9:00 AM -- Marie Santomaso + (Phil Santomaso)
11:00 AM -- William Nestel + (Nestel family)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Living and Deceased members of St. Faustina Parish



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONER, Cleon Garl, who died on 11/24. Include his wife Mary, and the entire family in your prayers as well. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord..."

As of 11/13 we have 223 families pledging \$47,249.25 and paying \$41,965.95 toward our goal of \$51,120.00. Participation is 43.9% of our 508 families.

November 22nd Offertory:
\$7,540



Stewardship



Prayer should be an important part of our lives as Catholics; prayer needs to be a part of our lives (and our schedule) during this Advent season as we prepare for the coming of Christ. In our Second Reading today, St. Paul, in his letter to the Philippians proclaims a prayer for them (and for us as well), "And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ."

That prayer is a succinct way of reminding us what we should be doing as part of our Advent preparations. We should be making a concerted effort to love; that we need to increase both our knowledge and our perception of what it means to be a good Catholic, a good steward, a disciple; that we must sort out what is really of value — that can be a challenge in a world where Christmas is so commercialized and the emphasis seems to be placed more on glitz than on faith; and that we should be striving for "righteousness" as we prepare for not just the birth of Christ, but the final coming of the Lord as well.