

St. Faustina Catholic Church



Week of Dec. 19 to Dec. 27

Fourth Sunday of Advent & CHRISTMAS

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



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



*The complete
Christmas Schedule
is included in the
"Mass Intentions"
section.*

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.

Father Dave's Corner



With Christmas days away, it is appropriate for the Church to shine a light on Mary, the mother of God. Of course, Jesus is the center of attention, but Mary's humble cooperation made the Incarnation a reality. Today's Gospel provides opportunities to see even more deeply how important Mary is to OUR salvation.

Elizabeth calls Mary *blessed*. One definition of blessed is *holy*; another is *avored by God*. Mary is all of these things—blessed, holy, and favored by God—because God chooses her to be the mother of Jesus. This helps us understand the important role Mary played and continues to play in God's unfolding plan of salvation. Mary is the mother of the Messiah, the Savior of the world.

To grow in our love for Jesus and to be with God one day in heaven, we must strive to imitate Mary's example of being faithful to God and God's plan for our lives. We must also turn to the Blessed Virgin Mary, our spiritual mother, to intercede on our behalf so that we might receive the grace needed to remain steadfast to grow in faith and love for the Lord Jesus.

In the Gospel, Elizabeth gives Mary credit for believing that what God had told her WOULD BE FULFILLED. This message likely touched Elizabeth more than it might have affected others. This visit from Mary probably strengthened her cousin to believe even more in God's message TO HER AND HER HUSBAND about their own son.

Mary continues to help people believe in God's promises. Her example is a comfort to us, even today, as we seek to understand the mystery of the Incarnation. *How is it possible that the mother of my Lord should come to see me?* Elizabeth asks. We still ask similar questions. "Am I worthy to be in God's kingdom?" "Who am I to think Jesus came to save me?" "What does God expect of a lowly person like me?" Mary's example helps give us answers. We are to believe. WE ARE TO TRUST. We are to obey, as she did.

So, as we continue to prepare for the celebration of the Lord's birth, let us remember Mary's example. Let us give thanks for her. Let us also stay close to her so she can guide us in the way of the Lord! (Homilies; Diocese of Lansing, MI)

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

Father Dave

Stewardship



"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." With those words from St. Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, to our Blessed Mother Mary our Gospel on this Fourth and final Sunday of Advent

closes. It is appropriate that we are reminded of Mary's stewardship just a few days before she gives birth to Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

In the U.S. Bishops Pastoral Letter on stewardship, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, The Bishops remind us that Mary is the epitome of stewardship: "After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship in their fullest sense...she was called and gifted by God; she responded generously, creatively, and prudently; she understood her divinely assigned role in terms of service and fidelity."

As we complete our preparations for the coming of the Lord at Christmas, we need to consider Mary's total trust in God and her willingness to place her entire life at His service, and ours. If we can even be a fraction of the steward she was, we will be ready for Christ's coming and better prepared to be disciples and good stewards. In the midst of our joy and celebration at this holy time, we, too, must bear in mind that we are called and chosen.



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: \$1,096,093
(as of Tuesday, December 8, 2015)

DINE TO DONATE OPPORTUNITY: Tuesday, December 22 at Sonny's BBQ down on Rte. 27 in Haines City. From 11 AM til 9:30 PM. Whatever you eat and drink will earn us between 15% and 25% depending on how many folks attend. A FLYER IS NEEDED and must be presented to server before ordering. Flyers are available at the entrances of the Church. **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 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 RESULTS:** We received a check from Bruno's Italian Restaurant on 12/1/15 for \$100.00 for folks who have dined there the past couple of months. We also received a check from Texas Roadhouse on 12/7/15 in the amount of \$250.00 for our Nov. 17th event and for the Sunday lunches in November. Many thanks to all who participated.

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. The parish will receive 10% of your receipt.

BAKE SALES are the second weekend of the month.



December 6th Offertory: \$9,473

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.



Parish offices will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 24th and Friday, Dec. 25th. They will reopen for business on Monday, Dec. 28th.

THE EXTENDED WINTER MASS SCHEDULE begins the weekend of December 26-27. Saturday's masses are

at 4 and 6 pm with Sunday masses scheduled for 7:30, 9:00 and 11 am in English and at 7 pm in Spanish.

THE 2016 ENVELOPES are ready in the lobby. PLEASE get yours so we don't have to move it to the new site.

PRE-CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKET RESULTS: We sold a total of \$1,463.00 worth of tickets. 1st prize winner donated \$100.00 back to parish. 2nd prize winner donated \$100.00 back to parish. 3rd prize winner received \$146.00 (winners were listed last week). Parish profit before donations was \$1,017.00, so we were able to add \$1,217.00 to the Construction fund from this raffle. **MANY, MANY THANKS to ALL who participated.**

NO PARISH WALL CALENDARS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THIS YEAR...SORRY, due to the uncertainty of everything, we were not able to have phone numbers and other needed information available. **IN PLACE OF THESE**, each family will be receiving a special Christmas Gift from the parish: a copy of the book written by Matthew Kelly, called **REDISCOVER JESUS: An Invitation**. Ushers will be distributing them at the entrances of the Church door. One per family please...**BUT...BE SURE AND SHARE IT WITH EACH MEMBER.** Some of you who may have fallen away relatives may also want to eventually share it with them as you continue your prayer for their return to the Lord.

YOU CAN HELP WITH THE NEW EVANGELIZATION: If you know of any Catholics who live in your neighborhood or in your development, please let them know that we have moved to our new location!!! Address is 1714 U. S. Highway 27, (Glenbrook Commons), Clermont, FL 34714. Tell them how much parking we have and how much room is now available in the church. The Diocese is looking for us to increase the number of permanent, year-round registered parishioners so they can be reassured that building a new church is a safe bet. Let's get out there and invite them into our loving and welcoming community.

ST. FAUSTINA'S MUSIC MINISTRY: Sing a new Song unto the Lord! Everyone is encouraged to share their musical gifts, no matter how big or small, with the Lord! The parish will be starting both an Adult Choir and a Children's Choir in the new year. Adult choir will sing at the 9 AM Mass and Children at the 11 AM beginning Sunday Feb. 14, 2016. **PRACTICES WILL BEGIN Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016.** Children's practice will be from 5:00-5:45 PM...Adults from 6:00-7:00 PM. Cantors are also needed for the 4 PM Saturday and the 9 AM Sunday liturgies. Cantor practices will be held on Thursday, at 7 PM or by appointment. Anyone who is willing to share their instrumental talent with the community is also asked to contact Kelly. Instrumentalists are needed at all masses. If interested, please contact Kelly Mucci at kmucci65@yahoo.com with any questions.

RAISE MONEY FOR ST. FAUSTINA CHURCH: By having H & R Block Prepare your taxes. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3. 1) Get a REFERRAL FORM with our special code at the parish office. Take this form to a participating H&R Block office and give it to the tax professional. To find the nearest H & R Block office, go to tohrblock.com. 2) If you're a NEW CLIENT, St. Faustina's will receive \$20. 3) Feel good knowing you helped us raise more money as you got the necessary taxes done. This program runs from January 1 through April 15, 2016.

INTERESTED IN DONATING STOCK TO ST. FAUSTINA PARISH?- To see how, please see our web site at: <http://www.stfaustina.org/howtodonatestock.html>

Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy with a great new app from Our Sunday Visitor! Go to: www.OSV.com/YOM



Mass Intentions

December 19 to January 1, 2016

- Sat. 12/19 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Micah 5:1-4 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45
4 PM -- George Daignault + (Annette Daignault)
- Sun. 12/20
9:00 AM -- Flora Goncalves + (Inez Goncalves)
11:00 AM -- Mary Ellen Doherty + (husband, Thomas)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Manuel Bautista + (Rosalinda Bautista)
- Mon. 12/21 **NO MASS**
Zephariah 3:14-18 Luke 1:39-45
- Tues. 12/22 -- 8 am -- Stephen Reyes+ (Lena & Will Greene)
1 Samuel 1:24-28 Luke 1:46-56
- Wed. 12/23 -- 8 am -- Living & Deceased Members Casey Family (Mary Casey)
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 Luke 1:57-66
- Thurs. 12/24 **CHRISTMAS VIGIL**
8:00 AM -- **NO MASS**
6:00 PM -- Children of the Parish
Isaiah 62:1-5 Acts 13:16-25 Matthew 1:1-25
11:00 PM Christmas Carol Prelude
Midnight Christmas Mass -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina
Isaiah 9:1-6 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14
- Fri. 12/25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**
Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6
9:00 AM -- Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Faustina
11:00 AM -- All those Memorialized on our chairs
12:30 PM -- (espanol) -- Living & Deceased Members of St. Faustina Spanish Community
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- Sat. 12/26 **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**
Sirach 3:2-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:41-52
4 PM -- John Cangialosi + (Celia & Jim Kelly)
6 PM -- Carol Schanen + (Ken & Lynda Schanen)
- Sun. 12/27
7:30 AM -- All those Memorialized on our chairs
9:00 AM -- Intentions of Mary Ann Verbetich (Les & Louise Johnson)
11:00 AM -- Claire Betty Clegg + (Nicole Rueger)
7:00 PM--(espanol) -- Servio Tolio Zambrano Rincon + (Marion Penso & Fransico Zambrano)
- Mon. 12/28 **NO MASS**
- Tues. 12/29 8 AM -- Juanita Tambling + (Mr. & Mrs. Robert Vince)
1 John 1:5-22 Matthew 2:13-18
- Wed. 12/30 8 AM -- Healing for John LaVia (Mary Kay Miller)
1 john 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40
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- Thurs. 12/31 **SOLEMNITY of MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
Holy Day of Obligation Vigil
Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21
8 AM -- John Gillis + (Anniversary) (Fr. Dave)
6 PM -- Loretta & Jack Murphy-60th Wedding Ann. (Family)
Fri. 1/1/16 **SOLEMNITY of MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
10 AM -- Those Memorialized in our Chairs



WE ARE LOOKING FOR 31 FAMILIES TO HELP US REACH 50%—

While we will fall a little short of our goal of \$51,120.00 for the Our Catholic Appeal, we CAN STILL REACH 50% of our parish community IF we can get 31 families to donate ANYTHING between now and December 31. Right now we have 223 of our 508 registered parishioners (43.9%) having contributed \$47,294.25 (and paying \$43,636.86). If we can get to 50% that would go a long way in showing the Diocese our commitment and at the same time thanking them for their support as we move to our next location and FINALLY to our new home. Can you help?