



Fourth Sunday of Advent

1714 U.S. Highway 27, Suite 23
Clermont, FL 34714

December 18, 2022

Weekly Bulletin

Jesus, I Trust in You

Mass Schedule / Horario de Misas

Daily Mass

Monday to Saturday at 8:00 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday @ 4:00 PM

Sunday @ 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,

11:00 AM, 5:00 PM *en Espanol*

Wednesday Holy Hour

3:00—4:00 PM

First Friday Exposition

8:30 AM –9:30 AM

Confessions

Saturday 3:00-3:45 PM

or by appointment



Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM

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Pastor's Message / Mensaje del Pastor

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. (Matthew 1:24)

As we enter this final week of Advent, the Gospel turns our attention to the role of Saint Joseph in salvation history. If we focus on today's readings in which Joseph plays a role, we can glean some insights and lessons about God and our path of discipleship.

First, as we hear in the story, God invites Joseph's cooperation in his plan of salvation. We see this in Scripture time and again, and it is true in our own lives as well. If we were in God's seat, we might choose to force people into submission and to comply with our will, but this is not how God operates. God wants to win us over and wants to see us participate in the building up of his kingdom.

Second, what is the obstacle the angel identifies? Fear. *Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home*, says the angel. Do not be afraid to do this strange thing that runs counter to what you know, to what seems sensible, and even just. Might this be true in our lives? Might we be afraid to move forward with a choice we know in our hearts is what God wants us to do, but are hesitant because it just doesn't make sense from a worldly perspective?

Let us spend some time pondering these two questions: How is God inviting me to cooperate with the slow work of building up his kingdom, in my own heart, in my family and friendships, in the community? And, examining my heart, how is fear posing an obstacle to my cooperation? Let us ask Saint Joseph to intercede for us and show us how to respond with graciousness and humility, with trust and courage, to the Lord's invitation.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks for him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. (Ps. 24:5-6)

* * * * *

Cuando José se despertó, hizo como el ángel del Señor le había mandado y tomó a su esposa en su casa (Mateo 1:24).

Al entrar en esta última semana de Adviento, el Evangelio dirige nuestra atención al papel de San José en la historia de la salvación. Si nos enfocamos en las lecturas de hoy en las que José juega un papel, podemos obtener algunas ideas y lecciones sobre Dios y nuestro camino de discipulado.

Primero, como escuchamos en la historia, Dios invita a José a cooperar en su plan de salvación. Vemos esto en las Escrituras una y otra vez, y también es cierto en nuestras propias vidas. Si estuviéramos en el asiento de Dios, podríamos optar por obligar a las personas a someterse y cumplir con nuestra voluntad, pero no es así como actúa Dios. Dios quiere conquistarnos y quiere vernos participar en la edificación de su reino.

Segundo, ¿cuál es el obstáculo que identifica el ángel? Miedo. *No temas recibir en tu casa a María tu mujer*, dice el ángel. No tengas miedo de hacer esta cosa extraña que va en contra de lo que sabes, de lo que parece sensato e incluso justo. ¿Podría ser esto cierto en nuestras vidas? ¿Podríamos tener miedo de seguir adelante con una elección que sabemos en nuestro corazón es lo que Dios quiere que hagamos, pero dudamos porque simplemente no tiene sentido desde una perspectiva mundana?

Dediquemos un tiempo a reflexionar sobre estas dos preguntas: ¿Cómo me está invitando Dios a cooperar en el lento trabajo de construir su reino, en mi propio corazón, en mi familia y amistades, en la comunidad? Y, examinando mi corazón, ¿cómo es que el miedo se opone a mi cooperación? Pidámosle a San José que interceda por nosotros y nos muestre cómo responder con bondad y humildad, con confianza y valentía, a la invitación del Señor.

Bendición recibirá de Jehová, recompensa de Dios su salvador. Tal es la raza que lo busca, que busca el rostro del Dios de Jacob. (Sal. 24:5-6)

Financial Stewardship

Weekly Collection Weekend of December 4, 2022

Offertory / Ofertorio: \$10,677.00 Construction / Contruccion: \$3,969.00

“Thank You” for your ongoing support / “Muchas Gracias” por su continuo apoyo

Mass Attendance for the Weekend of December 4: 1,261



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 17, 2022

4:00 pm + Yancy Plata
Requested by: Gloria Brito

Sunday, December 18, 2022

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Faustina
9:30 am + Bernardino Bolatete
Requested by: Frank & Diane Maglione
11:00 am + Mary Ellen Doherty
Requested by: Thomas Doherty
5:00 pm + Dora de Kai
Requested by: Gilda Santiago

Monday, December 19, 2022

8:00 am In Thanksgiving
Requested by: Rosalina & Francisco Bulfango

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

8:00 am + Roberto Flores
Requested by: Carmelita Flores

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

8:00 am + Thomas A.E. Moseley
Requested by: Marilyn Moseley

Thursday, December 22, 2022

8:00 am Casey Family Living & Deceased
Requested by: Mary Casey

Friday, December 23, 2022

8:00 am SI Parish Staff
Requested by: Frank & Diane Maglione

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24, 2022

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Faustina
4:00 pm Parishioners of St. Faustina
5:30 pm Parishioners of St. Faustina
9:00 pm Please Join us for Christmas Carols
10:00 pm Parishioners of St. Faustina

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 25, 2022

8:00 am Parishioners of St. Faustina
9:30 am Parishioners of St. Faustina
11:00 am Parishioners of St. Faustina
5:00 pm Parishioners of St. Faustina

Prayer Requests

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

In order to properly update our parish "Prayer Request" section of the bulletin, we are asking you to **resubmit names** that you would like on our list by emailing: office@stfaustina.org.



Dolores Bojda, Mary Lou Maiellano, Lee Patrick, Carol Walker, Allen Bishop, Matthew Thompson, Florence Tyree, Lilah Smith, Dakota Smith, Becky Oosterveen, Deacon Dennis Gillan, Steve Albrecht, Brown Stegall, Tommy White, Angel Pagan, Yolanda Inumerable, Robert Kasper, Arturo Alejandro, Marie Flom, Marilyn Moseley, The Langan Family, Dick Schondel, Colby Feazell, Mike McGee, Evelisse Bookhout, Russell Perine, Gloria Nestel, Sandra Mueller, Manuel Bazon, Michele Middleton, Albie Hahn, Tina Audino, Jo Ellen Foti,

Frank Montagnino, Bill Consiglio, Debbie Consiglio, Joan Banahan, Kim Banks, Karen Clark, Judith Crogman, Daniel Cuttita, Patricia Dick, Linda Dugan, Don Logan, Brydon Neary, Ed Robinson, John Ryan, Cynthia Santulli, Lenise Shope, Amanda Solmonoff, Marge Tagler, Nicole Urbon, Theresa Wentling, Eric Whittingham, Mary Garl, Sue & Gene Plante, Donald & Trish Villeneuve, the People of Ukraine and their country, and all those in need.



OUR MISSION — St. Faustina is a Community inspired by the Holy Spirit and called to reflect God's Divine Mercy, to foster spiritual growth, and to attend the temporal and social needs of all.

NUESTRA MISION — Santa Faustina es una comunidad inspirada por el Espiritu Santo, y llamada a reflejar la Divina Misericordia de Dios, a fomentar el crecimiento espiritual, y atender las necesidades temporales y sociales de todos.

Parish Ministries & Upcoming Events



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Daily Mass,
Saturday, December 24, 8 am

Christmas Eve Mass, Saturday,
December 24, 4 pm, 5:30 pm,
10 pm (Bilingual)

Christmas Carols begin at 9 pm

Christmas Day Mass, Sunday,
December 25,
8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, 5 pm (Spanish)



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED — Following the guidelines of the Diocese of Orlando, St. Faustina is closed starting on Friday, December 23, though the week of December 26 to 30, and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3. (Monday, January 2, is observed as the January 1 holiday).

Looking for a unique, once-in-a-lifetime Christmas gift for someone special? How about purchasing a brick in their name? The Saint Faustina Knights of Columbus and the St. Faustina Parish have kicked off their joint ongoing fundraiser. The Knights have purchased a Memorial Monument commemorating the Unborn. You can participate in this fundraiser by purchasing a brick commemorating your loved ones and or yourself. The cost of the brick is \$100.00. The pamphlets to place your order can be found on the bookcases in the rear of the Church. Your brick will add to the landscaping of the walkway at the new church. The proceeds will be shared by the Council and Parish. For additional information please go to the Knights' web page on our new St. Faustina website at: [Knights of Columbus - St. Faustina Catholic Church - Clermont \(stfaustina.org\)](#) or contact Bill Mattingly at 352-988-7000 or wmattingly@cfl.rr.com.



VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP FOR THAT PERFECT RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS GIFT

If you are looking for that perfect religious Christmas gift, look no further than our parish gift shop. Are you shopping for your child's teacher, a neighbor, a good friend, a family member? You are sure to find something that will bring extra meaning to the Christmas season while helping the parish. New items are available every week.



The St. Faustina Bereavement and Consolation Ministry is reaching out to those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Our primary goal is to comfort and support those left behind.

Have you recently lost a loved one? Are you struggling with the upcoming holidays?

Our Consolation Ministry, Heart Links In Faith, can help you during this difficult time.

Please feel free to call the office at 352-525-9297 (ext. 102) for more information.

Parish Ministries & Upcoming Events

Our December Blood Drive Has Been Rescheduled—Due to the fact that our bi-monthly blood drive, which is held on the fourth Sunday of the month, falls on Christmas Day, the December drive has been rescheduled for *Sunday, January 29 from 7:30 am until 12:30 pm.* Because of our outstanding donor contributions, OneBlood will be sending two buses. Further details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the drive.



Newly Expanded Office Hours

After the first of the New Year, the St. Faustina parish office will increase their hours of operation to serve you better.

Our new office hours will be:

Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
and Friday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Town Hall Meeting

Got questions? Is there something you want to know? Well, there's a lot that we want to tell you!

Come to our St. Faustina Town Hall Meeting

on Saturday, January 7th at 1:30 PM to "Hear All About It"!

In addition to hearing from you, we'd love to tell you parish-wide ideas about:

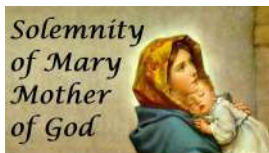
Plans and timelines for the move to our new building
Transition to our new church update
St. Faustina ministries update
A "Question and Answer" Period in true Town-Hall Spirit!

An update on St. Faustina finances
Liturgically, what to expect at our new building
How you can be involved in all the excitement!



Make plans to attend now, we're looking forward to seeing you at our St. Faustina Town Hall Meeting!

Looking Ahead to Ringing in the New Year — We will celebrate the start of 2023 by celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, with the following Mass schedule:



New Year's Eve Daily Mass, Saturday, December 31, 8 am

Virgil for Solemnity of Mary, Saturday, December 31, 4 pm

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Sunday, January 1, 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, 5 pm (Spanish)



Are You Looking to Make a Meaningful New Year's Resolution? Our St. Faustina parish is an active one with MANY opportunities for you to become involved with a ministry that fits your God-given talents. To learn more about all of our ministries and who to contact, please go to our website at:

[Ministries - St. Faustina Catholic Church - Clermont \(stfaustina.org\)](http://stfaustina.org) and / or: [Liturgical Ministries - St. Faustina Catholic Church - Clermont \(stfaustina.org\)](http://stfaustina.org)

Our New Church Construction Update



The left photo is how our worship space looked on June 29. The photo on the right is how it looked on Dec. 11.



From our first Mass on September 30, 2006, to the completion of the sign on November 18, 2022, these two signs reflect our St. Faustina journey.

While we are not quite there yet, the projection is that we will be in our new church building in early February, 2023.



For all the construction photos, starting with the clearing of the land on January 9, please go to our parish website at: [Construction Update - St. Faustina Catholic Church - Clermont \(stfaustina.org\)](https://stfaustina.org/construction-update)



St. Thomas the Apostle

By *Marylu Mariniello*

Not much is known about St. Thomas as a child or a young man. He was Jewish, maybe born in Galilee. How he was chosen as an apostle is not known either, but there are writings about him in the Gospels that show his personality and his leanings. He is mentioned eight times in the New Testament, with four of those times as part of lists of the Twelve Apostles.

He is also known in Greek as Didymus. The name Thomas means twin.

We know more about him in John 11:5-16. At a time when Christ wanted to return to Judea, the other disciples warned him of the hostility of the Jews (“Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?”) but Thomas then said “Let us also go to die with him.”



At the Last Supper, Thomas could not understand what Christ meant when He said, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where [I] am going you know the way.” Thomas’s questioned this saying “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Christ said this to him then – “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” This is written in John 14:1–7.

He is most famous as being known as “Doubting Thomas” because he wasn’t there when Jesus first came back after the Resurrection. When the other apostles spoke of this, Thomas didn’t believe them and wanted proof by putting his hands in Christ’s wounds, saying, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” Luke 20:25

Then Jesus appeared to Thomas and offered to let him do just that.

Thomas said “My Lord and my God,” making him the first person to explicitly acknowledge the divinity of Jesus. Christ replied, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” John 20:25-29

Afterwards, it is said that Thomas preached in Parthia and then went onto India. He is revered as the founder of the Syrian Malabar Christian Church, also known as the Christians of St. Thomas. Thomas was a carpenter who built many churches in Madras, India.

There is a story that says that Thomas offered to build a palace for an Indian king, which would last forever. The king gave him funds for the building, but Thomas gave the money to the poor. When Thomas was asked to show the progress of the work, he explained that the palace he was building was in heaven, not on earth.

Documentation shows that Thomas went to China and Indonesia and then returned to India. He was martyred by the King of Mylapore on December 21, 72 AD, being stabbed with a spear while he was praying in Calamine. His relics were taken to Ortona, Italy.

The major shrines for St. Thomas are the San Thome Basilica in Mylapore, Chennai, India and Basilica-Concattedrale di San Tommaso Apostolo in Ortona, Italy

The traditional feast day for St. Thomas is December 21 and his modern feast day is July 3. He is the patron saint of architects and Catholic Indians.