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THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

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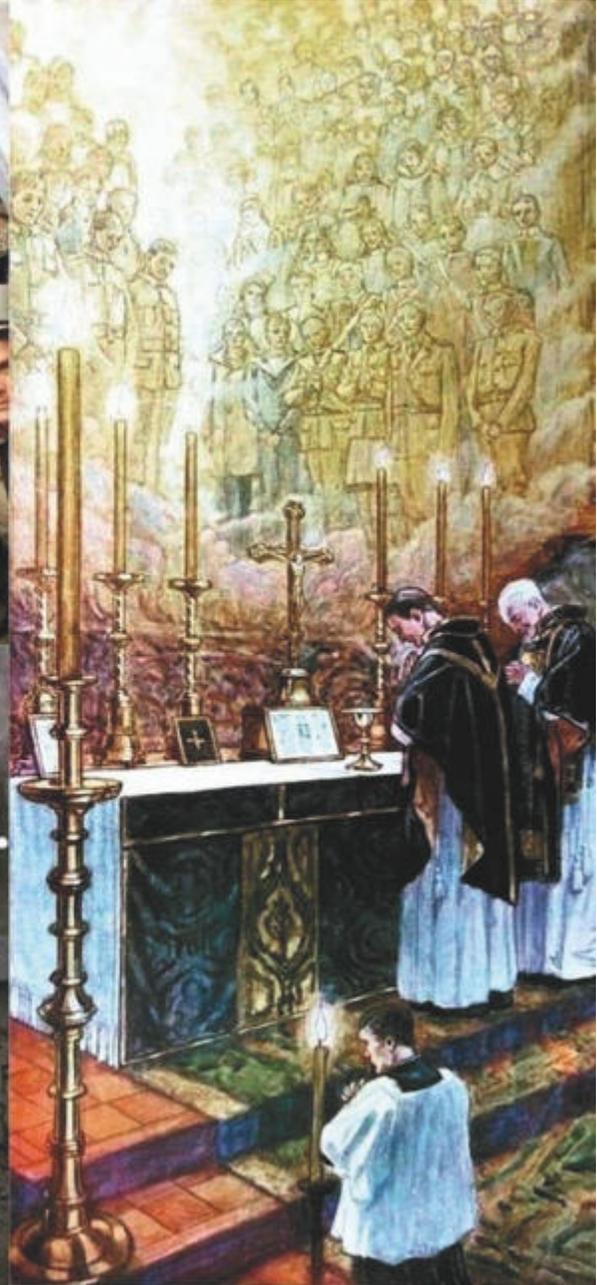
Home@sfxcparrish.com

941.776.9097

OFFICE HOURS

M,T, Th, F 9:00am-3:00pm

Closed Wednesday



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Mass: T, W, TH, F - 8:30 AM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Music Director and Rel. Ed. Coordinator:
David Collins

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Joseph Gates
Operations Manager: Richard Lind
Sacramental Coordinator: Chris Malone
Liturgy Coordinator: Lydia Herrera
Maintenance & IT: Ernie Nolder
Maintenance: Roger Rodriguez
Data Entry: Tom Moline

MAY 30 2021



Mass Intentions

Tuesday
8:30am
Req. By: Wednesday

Wednesday
8:30am
Req. By: Thursday

Thursday
8:30am
Req. By: Friday

Friday
8:30am
Req. By: Saturday

Saturday
4:00 PM

Sunday
930am
Req. By: 11:00am
Req. By:

JUNE 1
ANNIE L. MORELL BIRTHDAY
GRANDPARENTS

JUNE 2
+DONALD SWEENEY
SWEENEY FAMILY

JUNE 3
+BROOKE VAN COONEY
Robert & Jean Van Cooney

JUNE 4
+MARY K. GULLO
Richard & Carol Valvo

JUNE 5
PARISHIONERS

JUNE 6
+JOHN MORAN
Wife & Children

+MARY VINCELETTE
Donovan Family

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS
First Reading: 165 Dt 4:32-34,39-40
Psalms 33:4-6,9,18-20,22
Second Reading 8:14-17
Gospel Mt 28:16-20

Catholic
Faith Appeal
2021



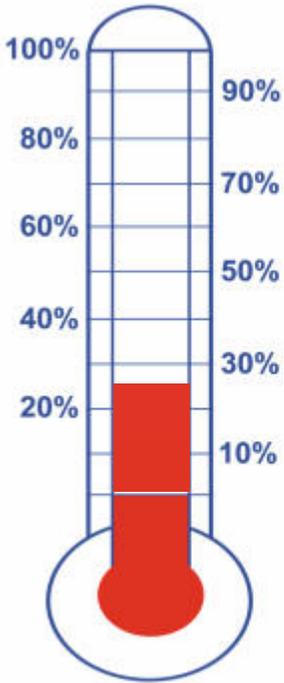
RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism: For registered and active parishioners: Please contact the Church Office. Baptism instruction is required for Parents.

Reconciliation (Confessions)

Saturdays 2:00-3:00 PM in Adoration Chapel
Or by Appointment

Weddings: For registered and active parishioners: must be arranged with the pastor at least 6 months before the date desired. Please contact the Church Office for more details. **941-776-9097**



Our Goal
\$164,000.00

Thank You!

Raised so far:
\$43,108.95

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Readings for the Week

Monday VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

572: Zep3:14-18a Ps Is 12:2-3,4bcd,5-6 Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday ST. JUSTIN

354: Tb 2:9-14 Ps 112:1-2,7-9 Mk12:13-17

Wednesday STS. MARCELLINUS & PETER

355: Tb 3:1-11A,16-17a Ps 25:2-5b,6,7bc,9-9 Mk 12:18-27

Thursday ST. CHARLES LWANGA & COMPANIONS

356: Tb 6:10-11;7:1bcde,9-17;8:4-9a Ps 128:1-5 Mk 12:28-34

Friday

357: Tb 11:5-17 Ps146:1b-2,6c-10 Mk 12:35-37



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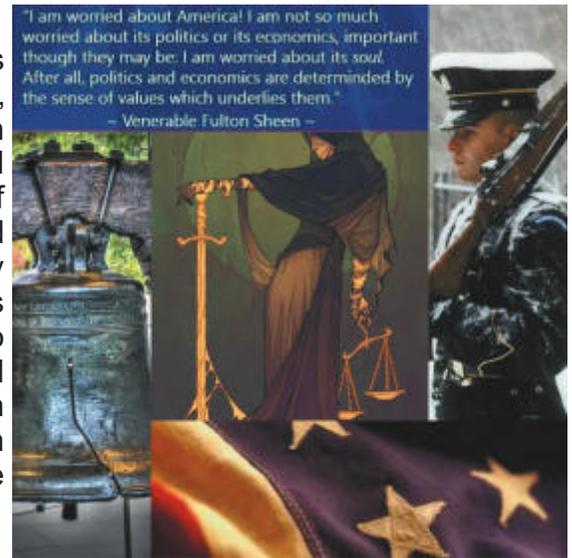
ATTENTION

Eucharistic Ministers are now able to visit the sick in Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Private Homes. If you or someone you know would like to receive Holy Communion and are not able to come to Church, please call the Church Office. You will receive a call back to set up an appointment with a Eucharistic Minister. **941-776-9097**

MOST HOLY TRINITY

Remember Memorial Day: Tim Bennett

As my friend shared his thoughts on the occasion of his son's birth yesterday, he reflected that "It [*his son's birth*] is good, meaningful, and a witness against death that marches with the intensity of a mob and the intention of a cancer." I couldn't agree more that the miracle of life and the beauty of an innocent child are incredible proof of God's power and immense love for us. Even as humans continue to turn away from Him and choose death, God continues to pour out His love in ways that we all cannot miss unless we choose to ignore Him. Though a culture of death continues to spread and the worship of things and earthly comfort replace God in humans' lives more and more each day, it is incumbent upon us to recognize that love is not dead and celebrate it where ever it is found.



Memorial Day is a solemn, but concrete example that we are not completely lost and love is not dead. Over a million of our fellow Americans have died defending our country, a country founded on Christian principles. At the time of their ultimate sacrifice, I believe that most Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen probably didn't have thoughts about the Constitution, the way-ahead for our republic, some philosophic idea, or patriotism. Rather, I believe that most likely thought of the friend next to them, the troops on their flank, and their family back home. That is, I believe that most laid down their life trying to take care for their friends, and as John 15:13 states, "no one has greater love than this."

It is right that we should take time every Memorial Day and remember those who sacrificed their lives because their actions enable us to raise our families under basic freedoms that allow us to practice our faith and share truth with others. We owe it to those men and women to live our lives to the fullest and ensure that we continue to defend the Christian principles on which our country was founded. If not for them, you and I might not be here and we most certainly wouldn't be sharing this communication. Additionally, beyond simply remembering their sacrifice, we ought to pray specifically for their souls, as it is a definite and important means to help them.

Men, we must ensure that we take time to recognize Memorial Day for more than a day off from work. It is the incredible love of so many that must be celebrated. Consider attending a ceremony, visiting the graves of those fallen in war, or simply gathering your family for a Memorial Day prayer. You might also pray specifically for the causes of Father Capodanno and Father Kapaun or find another means to personalize or uniquely focus your family's prayer. If I may steal my friend's words, I think it is good, meaningful, and a witness against death to remember the sacrifice and love of so many who gave their lives for us. (Catholicexchange.com)

So, the Christ goes out into the world, gathering up other human natures who are willing to be Christ. In order that our sacrifices, our sorrows, our Golgathas, our crucifixions, may not be isolated, disjointed and unconnected, the Church collects them, harvest them, unifies them, coalesces them, masses them, come in his massing of all our sacrifices of our individual human natures is united with the great Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross in the Mass.—Bishop Fulton Sheen

MAY 30, 2021

The Trinity Is Reflected in the Nature of All Creatures: Stephen Beale

We've all heard one about the three-lobed shamrock and the Trinity.

But it turns out that God's triune nature is imprinted on all creatures, according to two of the greatest doctors of the Church in the 1200s—St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Bonaventure.

In the *Summa Theologica*, Aquinas says that all creatures with an intellect and a will reflect the Trinity:

For the Son proceeds as the word of the intellect; and the Holy Ghost proceeds as love of the will. Therefore in rational creatures, possessing intellect and will, there is found the representation of the Trinity by way of image, inasmuch as there is found in them the word conceived, and the love proceeding.

Aquinas on the image of the Trinity in creation

Aquinas here is standing on the foundation laid by St. Augustine in his masterpiece, *De Trinitate*. Augustine proposes that we can understand the Trinity by way of analogy with ourselves. By looking within, we can see the image of God reflected, which can become a means of knowing God. Augustine understands the Son as proceeding from God as His self-understanding, or Word, to use the biblical term as Aquinas does. The Holy Spirit is the mutual love shared between the Father and the Son. (Love is associated with the will because love is willing the good of the other.) To the extent that we have an intellect and will, then we reflect this Trinity.

But the Trinity is reflected in the rest of creation as well, according to Aquinas:

But in all creatures there is found the trace of the Trinity, inasmuch as in every creature are found some things which are necessarily reduced to the divine Persons as to their cause.

To the extent that any creature exists in its own being, it mirrors the Father, Aquinas says. Likewise, creatures represent the Word—God's image or self-understanding of Himself—by having form. A bear has the form of a bear and not a cat. A tree has the form of a tree and not grass.

Finally, the relationships of species to one another are a reflection of the Holy Spirit. Within the triune God, the Holy Spirit is God's will for His own goodness, the shared love between the Father and the Son. Outside of God, in His creation, the many relationships among species are also a product of God's will. In this way, the relational nature of creatures is a reflection of the Holy Spirit, according to Aquinas.

St. Bonaventure's three causes

In his Breviloquium, St. Bonaventure, who overlapped Aquinas from the 1220s to 1270s, also saw the Trinity reflected in a series of three among creation. One key way he saw this was in God being a threefold cause of creatures—efficient, exemplary, and final cause.

Put simply, the efficient cause is what we normally think of as a cause. The carpenter is the cause of the table being built. The chemist is the cause of the explosion. The author is the cause of his book.

But the ancients and medieval thinkers thought of causes in much broader terms. In addition to efficient causes they identified other types of causes. One type is the exemplary cause, also known as a formal cause. This is the cause that makes something what it really is. In the case of the carpenter and the table it might be the blueprint. For the chemical explosion it would be the recipe the chemist followed. And, for the author of the book, it might be the outline or idea behind the book.

In the case of creation, we have God as the efficient cause, bringing creatures into being. But He also is the formal cause in that He also drew up the blueprint for all creatures.

The third cause is the final cause, the purpose for which something is caused. The table is made for family dinners. The chemical explosion might be to entertain an audience or discover some new compound. The book is meant for an audience. In the case of creation, it is meant for goodness, as God declared in Genesis.

Conclusion

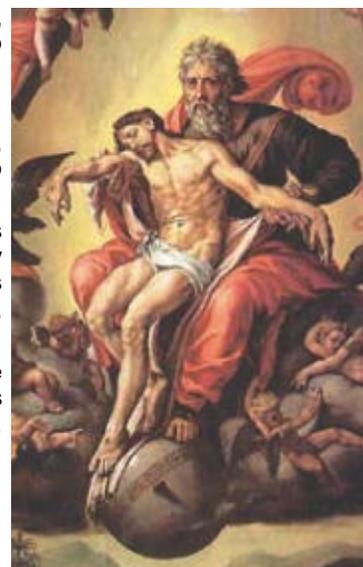
Like Aquinas, Bonaventure sees the Trinity reflected everywhere. "These, as vestiges of the Creator, are found in all creatures, whether corporeal, spiritual, or composites of both," he writes, referring to the three causes and their effects.

For Bonaventure, these vestiges are like clues which leads us back to our source, God:

This is the reason for what we have said. In order that there be perfect order and repose in things, all of them must be led back to one principle, which has to be the first so that it might grant rest to other things, and which must be most perfect so that it might perfect all the others.

Aquinas also concludes that "we are able to arrive at a knowledge of the Trinity of the divine persons from creatures." Again, this insight goes back to Augustine who said that the image of the Trinity within us—in our memory, our intellect's understanding, and our will's capacity for love, shows us the pathway to God. To paraphrase Augustine, we find our way to God, by remembering, understanding, and loving Him.

Thus, according to Aquinas and Bonaventure, God's 'fingerprints' so to speak are all over the threefold structure of creation—in the way creation was caused to the intellect and will we possess to the existence, form, and relationships that we find at all levels of creation. Invisible He might be, but God's handiwork is everywhere we look. (Catholicexchange.com)



MAY 30, 2021



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

April 9, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers (Acts 2:42).

This Scripture passage reminds us that the Easter Season is an apt time to renew our fidelity to those essential actions that define us as the Body of Christ. Preeminent among these activities is gathering with the Church to celebrate the Most Holy Eucharist on Sundays and Holy Days.

In March of last year, because of the many unknowns that came with the Covid-19 Pandemic, and to protect the most vulnerable among us, after consultation I decided to take the unprecedented step of suspending public Masses and granting a general dispensation to the Catholic Faithful of the Diocese of Venice from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Together with our fellow citizens, I urged Catholics to exercise caution to protect the health of all. I thank everyone for their patience and understanding during this difficult time.

As the Faithful returned to in-person worship when restrictions were loosened, the Diocese's Clergy and Faithful performed exceptional service in maintaining safety protocols. In recent weeks as vaccines have become available, the news in Florida is encouraging, even more members of the Faithful have returned to our Parishes for Sunday Mass. Our Holy Week and Easter Liturgies were particularly edifying examples of commitment to Christ and the Eucharist. Furthermore, life in Southwest Florida has returned to some level of normalcy; restaurants, stores, and entertainment venues are open, and people of all ages seem willing to return to ordinary activities.

It is apparent that circumstances now allow almost all Catholics to attend Mass safely. Therefore, beginning **May 1, 2021**, the general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will be lifted in the Diocese of Venice.

At the same time, the Faithful should note this obligation does not apply to those who are ill, or others as outlined in the revised guidelines accompanying this letter. The revised guidelines adjust safety protocols to acknowledge that most Catholics can return to in-person worship at their Parish churches.

During this year dedicated to St. Joseph, the Faithful are encouraged to turn to his intercession for protection and courage. Let us be mindful in prayer of those who are no longer with us and those who continue in their recovery. May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

FJD/nml

MOST HOLY TRINITY



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA *OFFICE OF THE BISHOP*

May 14, 2021

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Risen Lord! As Holy Mother Church approaches the Solemnity of Pentecost, it is my prayer that you, the Faithful of the Diocese of Venice, may be filled with the graces of the Holy Spirit.

With this letter, I wish to address the face covering and distancing policy at Mass and Parish gatherings in the Diocese of Venice. As you are aware, on May 13, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provided updated guidance for vaccinated individuals with regards to face masks and distancing. Under the new guidance, those who are fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear masks or physically distance except where required by law.

In accordance with the new CDC guidance and effective immediately, masks and distancing will no longer be required at Mass in the Diocese of Venice. Masks remain encouraged and certainly permitted, particularly for those who are not yet vaccinated. Masks will no longer be required for Parish group activities or other Parish gatherings.

For those who have children in a Catholic School or Parish religious education program, and due to only recent age eligibility for vaccines for some of these age groups, the CDC has said that masking is a key strategy to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools. Thus, for the remainder of this academic year, masks will continue to be required. This will be reviewed with the close of the school year.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all try to live in the context of the Pandemic and to be evermore mindful of our brothers and sisters around us who may be vulnerable, for whatever reason.

This opportunity is taken to extend to you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida



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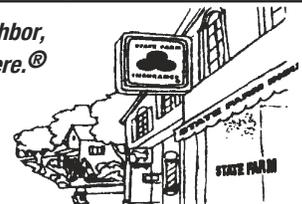
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