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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

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OFFICE HOURS

M,T, Th, F 7:00am-3:00pm

Closed Wednesday

GOOD TIDINGS
of
COMFORT &
JOY



SCHEDULE OF MASSES

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

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:15 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

DECEMBER 26 2021



Tuesday

8:30am

Req. By:

Wednesday

8:30am

Req. By:

Thursday

8:30am

Req. By:

Friday

8:30am

Req. By:

Saturday

4:00pm

Req. By:

Sunday

8:00am

Req. By:

2nd Int.

Req. By:

10:15am

Req. By:

Mass Intentions

DECEMBER 28

+THERESA DUMAIS

Grandson, James

DECEMBER 29

+CELIA BERUBE

Larry & Connie Smith

DECEMBER 30

+TIMOTHY PATRICK BURNS

Loving Family

DECEMBER 31

+ANDREW BAHL

Ruth & Richard Vaske family

JANUARY 1

+LOUIS PIAZZA

Antoinette Mangini

JANUARY 2

+JOHN MORAN

Wife & Children

+ANNA KIPPER

Ernest Nolder

+JOHN HEALY

Healy Family

Church Office for more details.

941-776-9097

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: 1Sm 1:20-22,24-28

Psalms 84:2-3,5-6,9-10

Second Reading 1Jn 3:1-

2,21-24

Gospel Lk 2:41-52



RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENTS

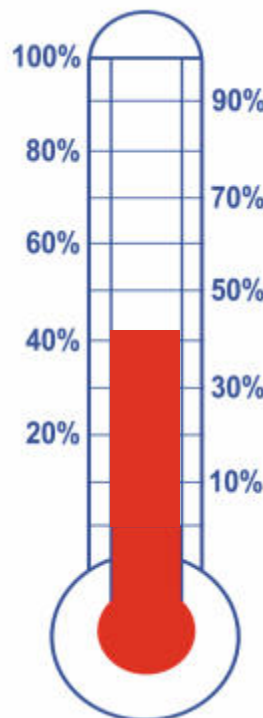
Baptism: For registered and active parishioners: Please contact the Church Office. Baptism instruction is required for Parents.

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



Our Goal

\$164,000.00

Thank You!

Raised so far:

\$89,374.76

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY ST. JOHN

697:1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12 Jn 20:1A,2-8

TUESDAY THE HOLY INNOCENTS

698:1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Ps 124:2-5,,7c-8 Mt2:13-18

WEDNESDAY ST. THOMAS BECKET

202:1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6 Lk2:22-35

THURSDAY

203: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40

FRIDAY ST. SYLVESTER1

204: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2,11-13 Jn 1:18



Reflections on Divine Mercy and the Eucharist

Saturday, January 15, 2022
9:00-2:00pm

Guest Speaker Bryan S. Thatcher, MD, of Tampa, Florida, is a retired medical doctor who travels the world speaking on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, the message of Divine Mercy, and his personal conversion. He and his wife, Susan have seven children, ages 34 to 11.

In 1996 he founded Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy (EADM), now a lay apostolate of the Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. EADM is now active in more than 45 countries, and the ministry has received three special apostolic blessings for its work from the late Holy Father, St. John Paul II.

Lunch will be provided.

To register, contact Diane Creel at 941-981-5136 or dicreel@aol.com.

Registration closes January 10, 2022 There is no fee,
but a **Free Will** donation is appreciated.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



Respect Life

Catholic Days at the Capitol - Join others from around the state for the annual Catholic Days at the Capitol in Tallahassee from February 1-3, 2022. The three-day trip includes a legislative briefing on important bills relating to human life and dignity, a breakfast with legislators and the Florida Bishops, tours of the capitol and museum, scheduled visits with legislators and the annual Red Mass of the Holy Spirit with the Florida Bishops and public officials. Bus transportation is provided while space is available at no cost. For details and registration (January 10 deadline) visit

<https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/catholic-days-at-the-capitol-2022>.

For more details contact Jeanne Berdeaux at Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org or 941-374-1068, or visit <https://www.flaccb.org/cdac>.

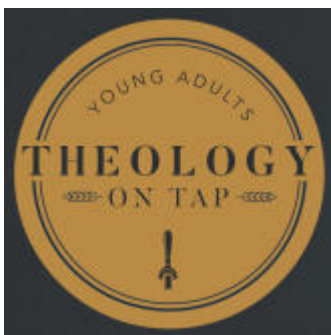
40 Days for Life 365 - The Fall Campaign may be over, but the effort continues to cover Planned Parenthood in prayer for an end to abortion every day that they are open.

Go to www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or www.40daysforlife.com/fortmyers for details.



Have Your Children Left the Catholic Church?

- A troubling statistic shows that 50 percent of young people raised Catholic are no longer practicing Catholics today. The Catholic Church is losing young people at an alarming rate. Behind this are millions of mothers, fathers and grandparents praying for their children and grandchildren to come home to the Church. To understand why young people drift away, Brandon Vogt and Word of Fire Ministries released the book "Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church". The passive wait-and-see approach is no longer an option. We need to focus on young people being proud of their Faith and bringing them home to the Church! For further information or to order the book please visit "Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church" by Brandon Vogt. (www.wordonfire.org).



Young Adults

Theology on Tap Sarasota - Theology on Tap takes place on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Mandeville Beer Garden in Sarasota, 428 N. Lemon Ave, Sarasota. Join us outside in the garden for food and refreshments, presentations, and discussions about the Catholic Faith. Please contact Joshua Mazrin at evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org with any questions.

DECEMBER 26, 2021



Save the Date

Event: Women's Emmaus Retreat
Hosted by Epiphany Cathedral Parish

Date: March 11-13, 2022

Location: Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Retreat Center, Venice Florida

More Information will be published
closer to the retreat.

**THIS RETREAT WEEKEND
WOULD MAKE A WONDERFUL
CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THAT
SPECIAL WOMAN IN YOUR LIFE.**

For questions, contact Donna Vodraska at donnavodraska@aol.com
941.496.4464 or 9630.336.0918

Do You Need Help?

If you need assistance from Catholic Charities for food, financial assistance, or tele-mental health counseling, please call the number for your area listed below between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday:

Sarasota/Manatee/DeSoto/Hardee/Highlands Counties: 941-355-4680;
Charlotte/Lee/Hendry/Glades Counties: 239-390-2928;
Collier County: 239-793-0059.

Food Distribution - Catholic Charities and other Diocesan entities combined efforts toward food distribution will take place at the times and locations as outlined below in Out and About the Diocese section.

Tele-Mental Health Counseling Services - Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice Inc. is offering Mental Health Counseling for adults and children provided by licensed mental health therapists. If you or someone you know is feeling stressed, anxious, overwhelmed, depressed, or helpless, Catholic Charities can help. For more information, please call 239-455-2655. There is no charge for this service.

DECEMBER 26, 2021

Missing Mass for No Reason: FR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS

Q: I was visiting relatives over Easter, and sadly they do not attend Mass. I went to Mass, and reminded them that missing Mass was a mortal sin. They said, “Oh, that was in the old days. Missing Mass is no longer a mortal sin.” What do you say? Please give me some ammunition.



Rather than just approaching this question from the angle of “missing Mass is a sin,” we should first call to mind the importance of the Mass. Each Sunday, we gather together as a Church with hearts filled with joy to worship Almighty God. We remember and profess our Faith once again in the mystery of our salvation: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered, died, and rose for our salvation. The saving actions of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday coalesce in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* of the Vatican Council II asserted, “For it is the liturgy through which, especially in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, ‘the work of our redemption is accomplished,’ and it is through the liturgy, especially that the faithful are enabled to express in their lives and manifest to others the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true church” (no. 2).

Moreover, at Mass, each faithful Catholic is fed with abundant graces: First, we are nourished by the Word of God — God’s eternal truth that has been revealed to us and recorded under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We then respond by professing our Holy Catholic Faith as presented in the Creed, saying not simply “I believe” as a singular person, but “we believe” as part of the Church.

Second, if we are in a state of grace, then we have the opportunity to receive our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. We firmly believe that our Lord is truly present in the Holy Eucharist, and that we receive His body, blood, soul and divinity in Holy Communion. Not only

does the Holy Eucharist unite us intimately with the Lord, but also unites us in communion with our brothers and sisters throughout the universal Church. The Holy Eucharist is such a precious gift! In his encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* (*On the Eucharist in Its Relationship to the Church*), Pope St. John Paul II underscored this point: “The Eucharist’s particular effectiveness in promoting communion is one of the reasons for the importance of Sunday Mass” and then, quoting his own apostolic letter *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, “It is the privileged place where communion is ceaselessly proclaimed and nurtured. Precisely through sharing in the Eucharist, *the Lord’s Day* also becomes *the Day of the Church*, where she can effectively exercise her role as the sacrament of unity” (no. 41).

With this in mind, no one should simply think of attending Mass as fulfilling an obligation. To attend Mass is a privilege, and any faithful Catholic should want to attend Mass. Our perspective should not be, “I have got to do this”; rather, we should think, “I get to do this.”

Nevertheless, because the Mass offers such precious gifts, provides the nourishment of great graces, and unites us as a Church, we do indeed have a sacred obligation to attend Mass. Remember that the Third Commandment stated, “Keep Holy the Sabbath.” For the Jewish people, the Old Testament Sabbath was on Saturday, marking the “day of rest” after creation. For Christians, we have always kept holy Sunday, the day of the resurrection. Just as creation unfolded on the first day of the week with God commanding, “Let there be light,” Our Lord, the Light who came to shatter the darkness of sin and death, rose from the dead on that first day marking the new creation.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY & JOSEPH

Given how precious the Mass is plus the Old Testament precedent which was rightly adapted by the Church, the *Code of Canon Law* (no. 1246) proscribes, “Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church.” Moreover, “On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass” (no. 1247). Therefore, the *Catechism* teaches, “Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit grave sin” (no. 2181), and grave sin is indeed mortal sin. Pope John Paul II, repeated this precept in his apostolic letter *Dies Domini (Observing and Celebrating the Day of the Lord)*, no. 47, 1998) and again in his encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia (On the Eucharist in Its Relationship to the Church)*, no. 41, 2003): “The faithful have the obligation to attend Mass, unless they are seriously impeded.”

Of course, serious circumstances arise which excuse a person from attending Mass, such as if a person is sick, has to deal with an emergency, or cannot find a Mass to attend without real burden. A pastor may also dispense a person from the obligation of attending Mass for serious reason. For instance, no one, including Our Lord, expects a person to attend Mass who is so sick he can not physically attend Mass or may pose a threat to the health of others; there is no virtue in further hurting one’s own health plus infecting everyone else in the church. Or, in the case of a blizzard, like this February, a person must prudently judge whether he can safely travel to attend Mass without seriously risking his own life and the lives of the others. When such serious circumstances arise which prevent a person from attending Mass, he should definitely take time to pray, read the prayers and readings of the Mass in the Missal, or watch the Mass on television and at least participate in spirit. Keep in mind when such serious circumstances arise, a person does not commit mortal sin for missing Mass.

In examining this question, a person must really reflect on how valuable the Mass and the Holy Eucharist are. Every day, faithful Catholics in the People’s Republic of China risk not only educational and economic opportunities but also their very lives to attend Mass. In mission territories, people travel many miles to attend Mass; an African missionary told me that some of his people walk 10 miles to come to Mass on Sunday, and then have to walk 10 miles back. They take the risk and they make the sacrifice because they truly believe in the Mass and Our Lord’s presence in the Holy Eucharist.

When a person negligently “bags Mass,” to go shopping, catch-up on work, sleep a few extra hours, attend a social event, or not interrupt vacation, the person is allowing something to take the place of God. Something becomes more valuable than the Holy Eucharist. Sadly, I have known families who could conveniently walk to the church but chose not to attend Mass; ironically though, they sent their children to the Catholic school. Yes, such behavior really is indicative of turning one’s back on the Lord and committing a mortal sin.

God must come first in our lives. On Sunday, our primary duty is to worship God at Mass as a Church and to be nourished with His grace. The *Didascalia*, a third-century writing, exhorted, “Leave everything on the Lord’s Day and run diligently to your assembly, because it is your praise of God. Otherwise, what excuse will they make to God, those who do not come together on the Lord’s Day to hear the word of life and feed on the divine nourishment which lasts forever?” Yes indeed, what excuse will they make? (Catholicexchange.com)



Bake Sale Thank You!

Thank you to Everyone who helped make the Bake Sale a success. So many of you were generous in looking after our Youth Group members. Thank you for your continued support and please know of our Gratitude!



A Bake Sale will be happening right before Christmas if you wish to buy some sweet gifts to help as well!!



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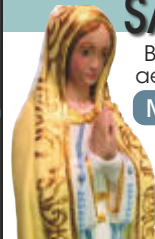
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