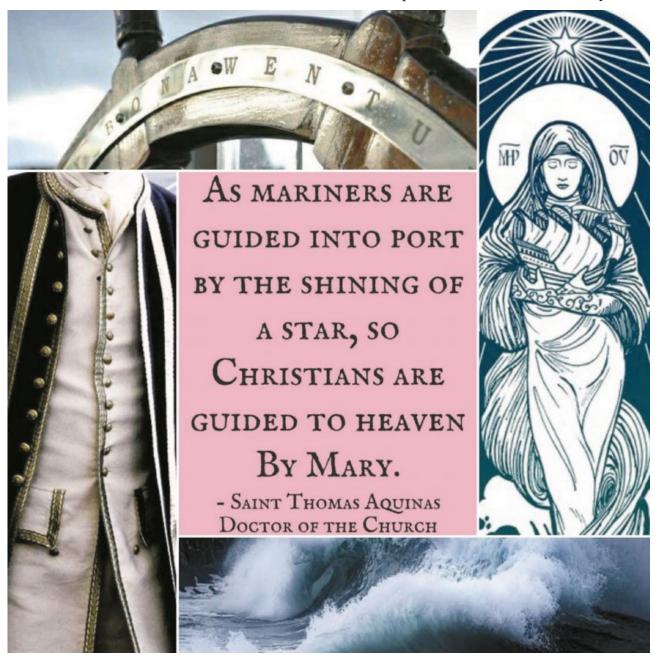
# St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church

12001 69th Street East, Parrish, FL 34219

#### **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

WWW.sfxcparrish.com OFFICE HOURS

Home@sfxcparrish.com M,T, Th, F 9:00am-3:00pm 941.776.9097 Closed Wednesday



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

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM & 10:30 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



Tuesday MAY 17

8:30am +LOUS RIVERA

Req.By: Family

2nd Int. +HENRY DAVID CASI
Reg.By: Maylin VanCoppenolle

3rd Int. +JUDI DETZEL
Req. By: Judy Everly
Wodnesday MAY 18

Wednesday MAY 18

8:30am SHARON SIEMION Rea. Bv: Arlene Ladell

2nd. Int. +JOHN WINTERS

Req. By: Wife

3rd. Int. MARITESS ALBANO

Req. By: Joe & Ginney

Thursday MAY 19

8:30am +MARIAN CONYERS

Req. By: Juliano Family 2nd Int. +LAURA CASI

Req. By: Maylin Van Coppenolle

3rd Int. +GERALD STONE

Req. By: Daughter

4th Reg. +ROBERT DOMMER

Req. By: Friend **Friday MAY 20** 

8:30AM +BERNARDINO GONZALES

Daughter

2nd. Int: +JAMES MILLER
Rea. By; Bill & Martha

Saturday MAY 21

4:00 pm +ALBERT & MARY DeGEORGE

Req. By: Loving Family 2nd Int: +GLORIA SCHERER

Req.By: Elaine Kemp

SUNDAY MAY 22

9:00 am +WARD FAMILY Req. By: Cheryl Ward

2nd Int.: RUBY GOROSPE bd.

Req. By: Joe & Ginney 10:30am PARISHIONERS



### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: 54:Acts 14:21-27

Psalms: 145:8-13

Second Reading: Rv 21:1-5a Gospel Reading: Jn 13:33a,34-35

### <u>SACRAMENTS:</u> Contact the Office

**Baptism:** For registered & active parishioners: **Baptism instruction is** 

required for Parents.

#### **Reconciliation:**

Saturdays 2:00-3:00 PM

In the main Church Or by Appointment

Weddings: Must be arranged with the pastor at least <u>6 months before the date</u> desired.

## **Last Rites & Anointing of the Sick**

Due to the Distance from Parrish Manatee Hospital:

St. Joseph: 941-756-3732

Sacred Heart: 941-748-2221

**Lakewood Ranch Hospital:** 

Our Lady of the Angels: 941-752-6770

**Doctor's Hospital Sarasota:** 

Incarnation: 941-921-6631 St. Patrick's: 941-378-1703

### \*DO NOT WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE\*

Funerals: Please contact the Office for a meeting for Dates, Readings, and Music. There are certain policies in place at St. Frances Cabrini for the respectful burial of your loved ones.

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



# Readings for the Week MONDAY

285:Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-4,15-16 Jn14:21-26 **TUESDAY** 

286: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b,21 Jn 14:27-31a **WEDNESDAY POPE ST. JOHN 1** 

287:Acts 15:11-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

**THURSDAY** 

288: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3,10 Jn15:9-11

FRIDAY ST. BERNARDINE of SIENA

289: Acts 15:22-31 Ps57:8-10,12 Jn15:12-17

# **Supporting our Diocese**

Our Goal to support the Diocesan Offices, Missions, and Charities.

# **Parish Focused Giving**

Helping to relieve our Parish of St. Frances Cabrini Debt!

Debt Free by 2023





### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Looking for a few good Team Members!

Ever been through RCIA? Christian Formation Process Looking to teach others about the truth of the Catholic Church?

St. Frances Cabrini is looking for knowledgeable Catholics who might like to help teach future RCIA Candidates. If your interested please give the Office a Call!

# St. Joseph Catholic School Enrollment













# Enrollment Season has begun for the 2022-2023 School Year!

St. Joseph Catholic School offers PreK 3, Free VPK for four-year-olds, a strong elementary program for Kindergarten through Grade 5, and an advanced academic Middle School program for Grades 6 through 8.

Our curriculum emphasizes academic excellence and prepares students with leadership skills, while rooting them in faith and values, to compassionately serve in an ever-changing world.



SJCS programs provide a variety of dynamic learning opportunities through our 1:1 technology; interactive Promethean boards; a STREAM Lab for robotics, coding, and project based learning (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, Math).

We also have a Science Lab, updated Art Room, and Music Room. Students are also enjoying a newly installed hydroponic garden and Spanish is taught at all grade levels.

Learn more by visiting sjsfl.org, calling (941) 755-2611, or emailing at office@sjsfl.org. Scholarships are available, spots are limited.



# LET HER KNOW SHE'S NOT ALONE



# INVITATION

Your parish can join others across the country in supporting pregnant women in need through a new initiative of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) entitled Walking with Moms in Need.

# GOAL

Make sure every parishioner knows where to send a pregnant woman for assistance. With the support she needs, more women will decide to parent or make an adoption plan rather than think that abortion is her only option.

# STEPS

PRAY – Use the special Prayer for Pregnant Mothers in the parish through bulletins, prayer cards in music books, etc. Include appropriate wording in Prayers of the Faithful.

ADVERTISE – Place ads provided by the Diocese of Venice Respect Life Office (see The Mustard Seed or www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife) in parish bulletins, newsletters, websites, e-blasts, bulletin boards and social media.

REACH OUT – Have a parish volunteer arrange for a tour of the local Pregnancy Help Center to meet with the staff to learn what they do and how the parish can assist them (recruiting volunteers, hosting baby showers and diaper drives for the center, promoting events, etc.) Determine how the parish can directly help individual clients, providing a connection to the parish for Catholic clients or those interested in learning more about the Catholic Church.



## REGISTER



Please register your parish's participation in the Walking with Moms in Need Program by contacting Jeanne Berdeaux, Diocesan Respect Life Director, at 941-441-1101 or Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org.



### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### The Blessed Mother & the Desolation of Smaug: Mark Haas

The late British professor of linguistics and author, J.R.R. Tolkien has gifted to the world two epic tales: *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. These two literary achievements have reshaped the trajectory of fiction since they were first printed in 1937 and 1954, respectively.

As a staunch Catholic, Tolkien quite naturally infused his Christian worldview using an oblique writing style. While he never mentions God, religion or a church, Tolkien references heaven, hell, the sacraments, and countless other customs of Christian piety within these magnificent texts. The author himself writes, "*The Lord of the Rings* is of course a fundamentally religious and Catholic work."

During this Marian month of May—traditionally set aside for devotion to the Blessed Mother—it might be edifying to revisit these stories using a Mariological lens:

"Frodo gazed in wonder at this marvellous gift that he had so long carried, not guessing its full worth and potency. Seldom had he remembered it on the road, until they came to Morgul Vale, and never had he used it for fear of its revealing light. Aiya Eärendil Elenion Ancalima! he cried, and knew not what he had spoken; for it seemed that another voice spoke through his, clear, untroubled by the foul air of the pit." (The Two Towers)

As Frodo confronts Shelob, he furnishes the trinket that was gifted to him by the Elvin Queen, Lady Galadriel. As the fellowship departs from Lothlorien, Galadriel blesses Frodo and offers him a guiding light: "May it be a light to you in dark places, when all other lights go out." Later, in Shelob's lair, Frodo raises the phial and cries out: "Aiya Eärendil Elenion Ancalima!" which translates, "Hail Eärendil, brightest of stars!" Similarly, the Blessed Mother, the *Star of the Sea*, has given to us the rosary as a light in dark places to direct our hearts toward her son, Jesus. Mary's name in Hebrew is *Miryam*, meaning "drop of the sea." The imagery suggests that the Mother of God is the interceding light to all Christians. We pray, "Hail Mary, full of grace!" (Luke 1:28)

Lady Galadriel is a beautiful representation of Mary as Queen of Heaven (Revelation 12:1). Tolkien also invokes the Blessed Mother as one who will battle the evil one:

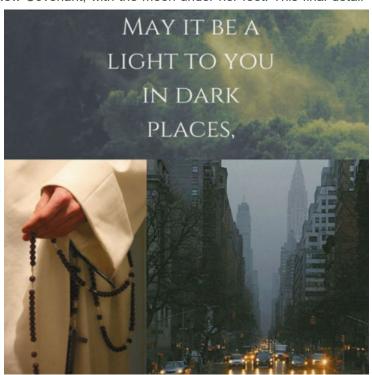
"A sword rang as it was drawn. 'Do what you will; but I will hinder it, if I may.' 'Hinder me? Thou fool. No living man may hinder me!' Then Merry heard of all sounds in that hour the strangest. It seemed that Dernhelm laughed, and the clear voice was like the ring of steel. 'But no living man am I! You look upon a woman. Éowyn I am, Éomund's daughter.' ... 'Éowyn! Éowyn!' cried Merry. Then tottering, struggling up, with her last strength she drove her sword between crown and mantle." (*The Return of the King*)

Éowyn perfectly embodies the woman foretold in Genesis 3:15 who will crush the head of the serpent. It is of course Mary's seed, Jesus Christ, who destroys Satan's head by His triumph on the Cross. Early Christians understood this prophecy from Genesis as a reference to the *Theotokos*, meaning the "Mother of God." She is later seen in Revelation 12:1, physically assumed in heaven, as the Ark of the New Covenant, with the moon under her feet. This final detail

from scripture is a clue to how Tolkien will crush the head of one of the greatest serpents in Middle Earth: Smaug.

The Hobbit tells the tale of Bilbo Baggins: a simple hobbit who desires comfort and seems to be unwilling to sacrifice himself for others. Bilbo's story is a pilgrimage of grace, which demonstrates the power of growing in wisdom and virtue.

During his many adventures with the dwarves, Bilbo is confronted with a series of challenges that are often resolved in supernatural ways. Tolkien alludes to God and to the Christian life throughout the story. For instance: as the company escapes the clutches of captivity from the Elf King, Bilbo dutifully baptizes all of his companions, as he drops them all into water: "I am he that buries his friends alive and drowns them alive again from the water." They have escaped the clutches of sin through baptism, which saves you. (1 Peter 3:21) intervention of God to locate the entrance: Tolkien also uses poignant imagery to depict God himself. As Bilbo and the company of dwarves approach the secret entrance to the Lonely Mountain, they have a difficult time locating the keyhole. It requires the direct intervention of God to locate the entrance:



## MAY 15, 2022

"The sun sank lower and lower, and their hopes fell. It sank into a belt of reddened cloud and disappeared. The dwarves groaned, but still Bilbo stood almost without moving ... Then suddenly when their hope was lowest a red ray of the sun escaped like a finger through a rent in the cloud. A gleam of light came straight through the opening into the bay and fell on the smooth rock-face ... There was a loud crack. A flake of rock split from the wall and fell. A hole appeared suddenly about three feet from the ground. Quickly, trembling lest the chance should fade, the dwarves rushed to the rock and pushed—in vain. 'The key! The key!' cried Bilbo." (On the Doorstep, The Hobbit)

God directly intercedes in the form of the sun *like a finger*. The ninth-century hymn, *Veni Creator Spiritus*, poetically describes the Holy Spirit as "the Finger of God's right hand." God, in the third person of the Trinity, wants to touch, lead, and guide us. The Light of God also gives us hope in times of struggle. This can be seen in *The Lord of the Rings* as Frodo and Sam approach the Cross-roads of Ithilian. They walk past a seated statue of a king from old that has been desecrated by orc graffiti. Suddenly, the setting sun casts a convenient ray of light on the statue: "Look!" Frodo cries. "The king has got a crown again!" (*The Two Towers*) God gave to them the image of the crown of life, as they were undergoing the test. (James 1:12)

As Bilbo and the dwarves delve deeper into the Lonely Mountain, they awoke Smaug. In his anger, Smaug descends to unleash his wrath on the unsuspecting people of Laketown. The dragon will be no match for the Blessed Mother:

"The dragon swooped once more lower than ever, and as he turned and dived down his belly glittered white with sparkling fires of gems in the moon—but not in one place. The great bow twanged. The black arrow sped straight from the string, straight for the hollow by the left breast where the foreleg was flung wide. In it smote and vanished, barb, shaft and feather, so fierce was its flight. With a shriek that deafened men, felled trees and split stone, Smaug shot spouting into the air, turned over and crashed down from on high in ruin." (Fire and Water, The Hobbit)

Smaug's weakness is exposed by *the moon*. Traditional Christianity describes the bi-nary unity of Jesus Christ and the Blessed Mother as represented by the sun and the moon. Jesus is the sun (the Son) – the only true source of eternal Light. Mary is the interceding light to all Christians. She is like the moon, which is lightless, until it reflects a guiding light from the sun. Her intercession is famously described by St. Louis de Montfort: "To Jesus through Mary."

Tolkien chooses to use the light of the sun through the moon (Jesus through Mary) to crush the head of Smaug. He is ultimately slain by the darkness of his own heart – the absence of light in the weak spot of his own chest. The Light of God's presence disperses the shadows of darkness.

Sun and moon; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever! (Daniel 3:62)

(Catholicechange.com)

#### Queen of the Waves

#### Sung by French fishermen seeking protection from storms.

Queen of the Waves, look forth across the ocean From north to south, from east to stormy west, See how the waters with tumultuous motion Rise up and foam without a pause or rest.

But fear we not, tho' storm clouds round us gather, Thou art our Mother and thy little Child Is the All Merciful, our loving Brother God of the sea and of the tempest wild. Help, then sweet Queen, in our exceeding danger, By thy seven griefs, in pity Lady save; Think of the Babe that slept within the manger And help us now, dear Lady of the Wave.

Up to thy shrine we look and see the glimmer Thy votive lamp sheds down on us afar; Light of our eyes, oh let it ne'er grow dimmer, Till in the sky we hail the morning star. Then joyful hearts shall kneel around thine altar And grateful psalms re-echo down the nave; Never our faith in thy sweet power can falter, Mother of God, our Lady of the Wave.





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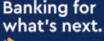
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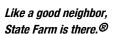
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