

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

MASS TIMES:

Daily Mass: (M-F) 7:30 am Saturday Mass: 8:00 am Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Saturday Confession: 2:45 pm-3:45 pm Sunday Mass: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am; 2:00 pm (Polish First Sunday of Month)

4:00 pm (Creole Mass Weekly)

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and myGod!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and

have believed." - Jn 20:28-29

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Father Robert Tatman

Haitian Ministry Parish Priest

Father Fritz Ligonde

Deacon

Deacon Nicholas Jurosic

Pastoral Emergencies 239-334-2161

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Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(Closed 12 - 12:30 p.m.)

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info@stfrancisfm.org

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Saturdays: One half hour before and after the 4pm Mass Sundays: 8:30 to 9:30, 10:30 to 11:30, for half an hour after the 11:30 Mass

The store is closed while Mass is being celebrated.

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SACRAMENTS OF OUR FAITH

Anointing of the Sick:

The Sacrament is meant for anyone who is suffering from a serious illness — physical, emotional, or spiritual. It may be received at any time during a person's illness, especially before surgery or treatment. Available the first Saturday of the month at the 8:00 A.M. Mass.

Confession:

Saturdays from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Readings for the week of April 27

Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-

19/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a,

7b-9/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab,

1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3,

4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and

9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-

14/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-

5/Jn 14:6-14

Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

MASS INTENTIONS

April 26, 2025 to May 4, 2025

Saturday, April 26

8:00 A.M. * Gloria Bailey 4:00 P.M. + Victor Medore

Sunday, April 27

7:30 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

9:30 A.M. + Mary Jane Semcer

11:30 A.M. + Gerald McCarthy

4:00 P.M. * Mother Mary Frances

Monday, April 28

7:30 A.M. * Dr. Stephen Hannan

Tuesday, April 29

7:30 A.M. + Joshua Jackson

Wednesday, April 30

7:30 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, May 1

7:30 A.M. + Mary Savino

Friday, May 2

7:30 A.M. + Lillian S. McArdle

Saturday, May 3

8:00 A.M. + Annina Castle Medore

4:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, May 4

7:30 A.M. + Emiliee Rindos

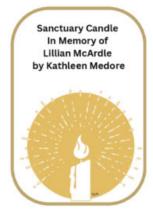
9:30 A.M. *+ Living & Deceased of Klose family

11:30 A.M. *+ Living & Deceased of McCarthy family

2:00 P.M. * Margaret Rotolo

4:00 P.M. * Dallas Castellanos







GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE: Father John Muir

It's common for Catholics to hear the question, "Why do I have to go to a priest to have my sins forgiven?" I've never liked that question because not only is it clunky (confession is the ordinary way for the pardoning of serious sins, not lesser ones). But it misses the larger context: the wonderful origins of the sacrament itself. And this context is deeply Jewish.

Ancient Jews associated forgiveness of sins with priests offering sacrifices in the Jerusalem temple. It was a solemn, public, and tangible way to access God's mercy. So when the risen Jesus breathes on the Apostles and says, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:23), the upshot is remarkable: he is the new temple and his Apostles are the new priests. Jerusalem is no longer the place to find forgiveness from sin. Jesus' body, the Church, is.

So why should we go to the Sacrament of Confession? For the same reason ancient Jews went to the temple in Jerusalem: to experience the intimacy, joy, and life-giving power of God's eternal forgiveness.

April Parish Activities

4/27/2025	10:00-11:15 AM	Faith Formation	хн
4/28/2025	6:00-7:30 PM	Bible Study	XHA
4/29/2025	10:00-11:30 AM	Book Study – The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ	мс
4/30/2025	9:45-11:00 AM	Bible Study	мс

XH - Xavier Hall XHA -Xavier Hall Annex CH - Church MC - Ministry Center R - Rectory C - Chapel

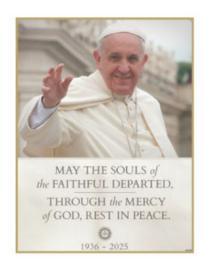
May Parish Activities

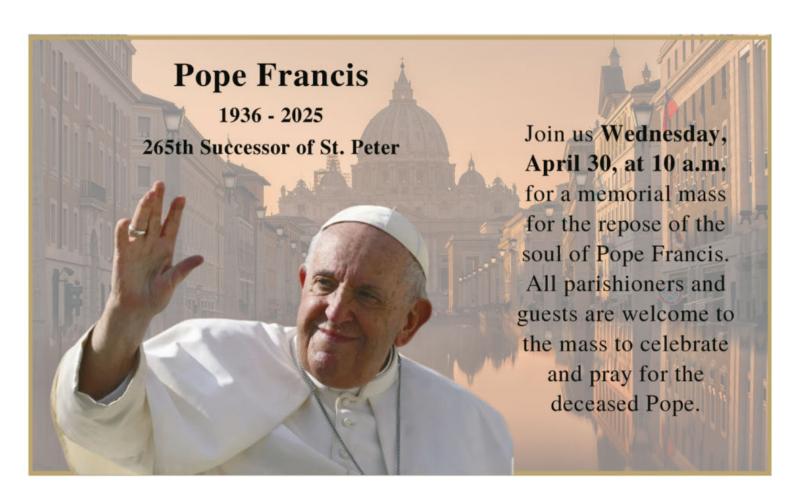
Date	Time	Event	Location
5/2/2025	12:00-1PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	СН
5/3/2025	8:00 AM	Mass followed by Anointing	С
5/4/2025	10:00-11:15AM	Faith Formation Potluck	хн
5/5/2025	6:00-7:30PM	Bible Study	XHA
5/6/2025	6:30 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting	хн
5/7/2025	10:00-11:30AM	Bible Study	МС
5/9/2025	12:00-1PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	СН
5/12/2025	6:00-7:30PM	Bible Study	XHA
5/14/2025	10:00-11:30AM	Bible Study	мс
5/16/2025	12:00-1PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	сн
5/19/2025	1:00 PM	Respect Life Ministry Meeting	мс
5/19/2025	6:00-7:30PM	Bible Study	XHA
5/21/2025	10:00-11:30AM	Bible Study	МС
5/22/2025	10:00-11:30AM	Prayer Blanket Ministry Meeting	мс
5/23/2025	12:00-1PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	сн
5/24/2025	3:00-7:00PM	Knights of Columbus BBQ	хн
5/26/2025	6:00-7:30PM	Bible Study	XHA
5/28/2025	10:00-11:30AM	Bible Study	МС
5/27/2025- 6:00-7:30PM	NAMI Meeting	National Alliance on Mental Illness	мс
5/30/2025	12:00-1PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	сн

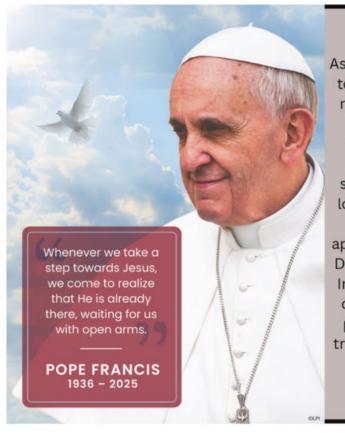


LIVE THE LITURGY

Thomas needed proof to believe the amazing things that had happened. God, in His mercy, gave him that proof — but it was up to Thomas to accept it. Do we accept the proof we see of God's love every day?







Dear beloved parishioners,

As we gather in faith and fellowship, we invite each of you to take a moment to send your heartfelt prayers for our recently departed Pope Francis. He was a guiding light, embodying compassion and kindness, who touched countless lives around the globe with his warmth and wisdom. Let us come together, lighting candles and sharing memories that reflect his deep commitment to love, unity and peace. He was clearly a champion of the poor and marginalized. What a beautiful token of appreciation in extending your support to the St. Vincent DePaul Society in helping the poor in his loving memory. In this shared space, let our voices rise in unison, asking our Lord to embrace his spirit and to grant him eternal peace. Your prayers and acts of charity are a beautiful tribute to our Holy Father, a way for us to keep his legacy alive in our hearts and in our community.

Rev. Steve Clemente

WeShare

As was stated at our Masses recently, St. Francis Xavier's expenses occur continually throughout the year. Whether you are a year-round resident or a seasonal resident who returns every fall, your continued support of the parish is important and appreciated. The parish has made WeShare an effortless way to continue to support our parish, whether you are in Ft. Myers or away. If you have questions about how to enroll in WeShare, please call the office or go to our website at www.stfrancisfm.org. You may continue to support our parish while you are away and/or choose to donate more regularly.

To our seasonal residents... we wish you safe travels and look forward to seeing you when you return.

Thank You



the beauty of our worship service each Sunday. The flowers are always given to the glory of God first and then given in memory or in honor of a person, or other special occasions such a baptism, birthday, anniversary or wedding. The cost of a dedication is \$75. Please make checks payable to St. Francis Xavier with "Altar flowers" put on the memo line. Please specify the date on which you would like your arrangement

memorialized.

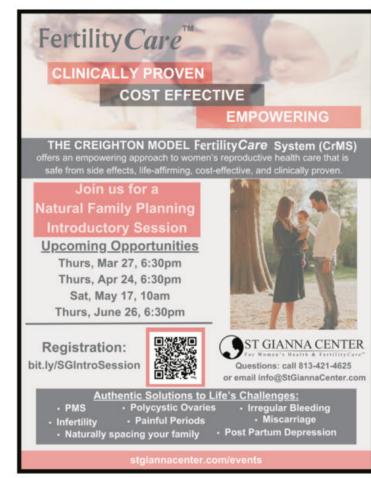


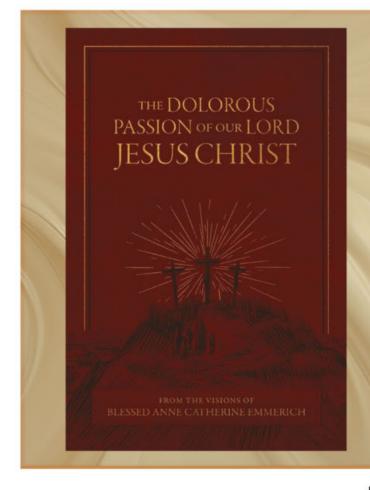
The parish is reaching out for kindhearted volunteers to bring Holy Communion to those in hospitals and nursing homes. This important work helps share love and support with people who may feel lonely or unwell. By visiting them you can offer comfort and a sense of connection to their faith. If you feel called to help this is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in someone's life. Call the office at 239-334-2161. Help in spreading joy and hope through this beautiful service!

Have you remembered the good works of the Church in your Will? A bequest of part of your estate or for a stated amount of \$5,000, \$10,000, \$50,000, will ensure that the works of the parish will continue after your death.

Please call the Parish Office fore more information - 239-334-2161.







Join us in the Ministry Center on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. to discuss The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

The primary inspiration of *The Passion of the Christ*, "The Dolorous Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ" by Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich offers a detailed, vivid account of Jesus's Passion and Death, based on her visions, and includes details about the Last Supper, Agony in the Garden, Crucifixion, and the Blessed Mother's role in redemption.

WELCOME to our parish

Mr. Frank Barcells & Laura Blanco & family

Mr. & Mrs. Teddy Beaullieu & family

Ms. Susan Bennett

Ms. Carline Cadet & family

Mr. & Mrs. John DiNardo

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Dolfi & family

Mr. & Mrs. Carl Eastlund & family

Mr. Ean Michelet François

Mr. Ean Michelet Francois Mr. & Mrs. Tim Hennessy & family Ms. Margaret Jimenez Ms. Rose Andree Joseph Ms. Joseline Joseph Mr. John Kruk

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Piccirilli & family

Ms. Helga Strauch

DIVINE MERCY SUNDA THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

History

Jesus began appearing to St. Faustina Koalska, a Polish nun, in 1931. The message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on her published diary recording the revelations she received from Jesus.

The Promise

"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day, all the divine floodgates throughout which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet ... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."

How To Observe

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sincerely repent all of your sins. Place your complete trust in Jesus. Go to Confession. Receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday. Venerate your image, such as a pray before: "Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!" Be merciful to others, through your actions, words, and prayers.

How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet

- 1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles' Creed.
- Then, on the Our Father beads, say the following: "Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."
- 3. On the 10 Hail Mary beads say the following: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world." (Repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades.)
- 4. Conclude with (three times): "Holy Gold, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

"Fesus, I trust in you

Why Marry in the Catholic Church?

If you are beginning to dream about getting married, you may also be thinking about where to hold your wedding ceremony. Every couple wants their wedding to be a memorable event and wants the ceremony to have a special meaning. The wedding day is one of the most important days in a couple's life. You probably have friends who have found very creative ways to celebrate this day. Some may have selected natural settings such as beaches or mountains, or intimate settings such a parent's or a friend's home.

If you and/or your fiancé(e) is Catholic, you are expected to marry in a Catholic church unless you have received permission to marry elsewhere. But marrying in a church is much more than an obligation. It's an opportunity to hold a celebration that is joyful and meaningful, one that can have a positive impact on the rest of your married life.

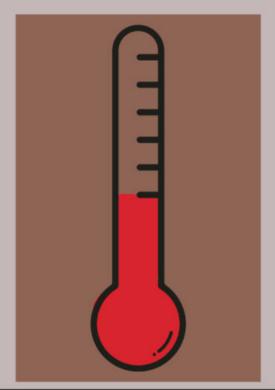
What could be more romantic than the centuries-old tradition of walking down the aisle in a parish church full of family and friends? What is more reassuring for the couple than being surrounded by the people who love them and who will give them ongoing support? What is more meaningful than reciting wedding vows handed down by Christian tradition? What is more awe-inspiring than a rite through which you enter a spiritual reality where God unites you as husband and wife and gives you an important mission?

In the Catholic tradition, husband and wife accept a role in God's plan for humanity. They are to be ambassadors of God's love. Through their love for each other, they show God's deep love for us, and they collaborate with God to keep humanity alive. The Catholic Church considers marriage a sacrament, a vehicle for God's graces to the couple and to the community.

Catholic FAITH APPEAL

- Goal: \$155,000.00
- Pledged: \$90,510.15
- Total paid: \$76,840.15
- % of goal: 58.39%

To donate: 239-334-2161 stfrancisfm.org





Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! On Saturday evening, April 19th, the faithful celebrated the Easter Vigil. The Mass started in darkness as our Pastor, Father Steve Clemente, blessed the fire and lit the new, 2025 Paschal "Easter" Candle. The Exsultet was proclaimed, the lights came back on and the readings followed. The church came alive at the singing of the Gloria, as the candles on the Altar were lit and the bells rang continuously throughout as we celebrated the empty tomb of the Risen Christ!

After the Gospel and Homily, the faithful were witness to several sacraments as many came into the church or were fully initiated through Confirmation. During this time the faithful renewed their baptismal promises and were sprinkled with holy water by Father Steve.

Congratulations to everyone who received a Sacrament that evening for the first time. Izaiah Ferreira was baptized and his brother Elijah Ferreira who joined the Catholic Church by making a public profession of faith.

Mark Cook, Justin Shott, Dan Rumsey all received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Then came the Liturgy of the Eucharist, where all those mentioned above (as well as Darion Arceneaux and Savannah from the OCIA) received their First Holy Communion with the entire congregation. It was an evening of joy as we celebrated Christ's resurrection. Thank you all who spent the evening with us during the very beautiful Easter Vigil Liturgy.

Happy Easter to you and your families!





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