

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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)

"For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

-Lk 16:8b, 13

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Father Steven Clemente

Parochial Vicar

Father Robert Tatman

Haitian Ministry Parish Priest

Father Fritz Ligonde

Deacon

Deacon Nicholas Jurosic

Pastoral Emergencies

239-334-2161

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday

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

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

239-334-2161

info@stfrancisfm.org

RELIGIOUS STORE

Sundays: 10:30AM to 11:30AM and 12:30PM to 1:00PM The store is closed while Mass is being celebrated.

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Vice Principal

Jim Reynolds

Bishop Verot High School

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Eucharistic Ministers	334-2161
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Lectors	872-2752
Pat Himschoot	
OCIA Coordinator	334-2161
Michael Reardon	
Knights of Columbus	673-8350
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St. Vincent de Paul Society	334-9225
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Respect Life Ministry	334-2161
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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 September 21

Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or

16:10-13

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-

3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a,

4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-

6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4/Lk

9:18-22

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10,

11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

MASS INTENTIONS

September 20, 2025 - September 28, 2025

Saturday, September 20

8:00 A.M. + Henry & Helen Walter

4:00 P.M. + Cathy DeLorezo

Sunday, September 21

7:30 A.M. * Julie Biffar

9:30 A.M. S/I Special Intention

11:30 A.M. + Gerald McCarthy

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

Monday, September 22

7:30 A.M. + Harold & Joan Kiefer

Tuesday, September 23

7:30 A.M. + Dan McWeeny

Wednesday, September 24

7:30 A.M. + Beth Garrity

Thursday, September 25

7:30 A.M. *+ Living & Deceased of Paul Muri family

Friday, September 26

7:30 A.M. + Alexander & Elizabeth Stanis

Saturday, September 27

8:00 A.M. *+ Rory McArdle, Happy Birthday

4:00 P.M. *+ Living & Deceased of Wise family

Sunday, September 28

7:30 A.M. *+ Living & Deceased of Himschoot family

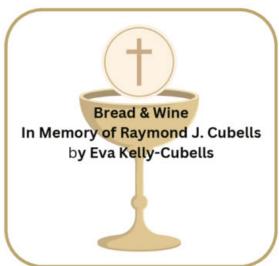
9:30 A.M. *I Jeffrey Swanson

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

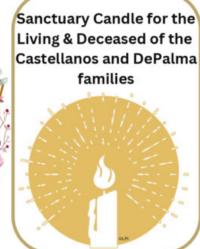
4:00 P.M. *+ Living & Deceased of Sweeney & Morrissey families

The 2026 Mass Book is open.

Please visit the parish office to schedule your requests.







Deceased

Living

Page 3

September Parish Activities

9/21/2025	10:00-11:15 AM	Faith Formation	XH/MC
9/22/2025	6:00-7:30 PM	Bible Study	ХНА
9/23/2025	6:00-7:30 PM	NAMI Meeting (National Alliance on Mental Illness)	XHA
9/24/2025	10:00-11:30 AM	Bible Study	МС
9/26/2025	12:00-1:00 PM	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	СН
9/28/2025	10:00-11:15 AM	Faith Formation	XH/MC
9/29/2025	6:00-7:30 PM	Bible Study	хна

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

LIVE THE LITURGY

the ability to choose. Will we serve

Are you a parent of young school-age children who have struggled to engage with the Mass? Do you find it hard for your little ones to make it through an entire liturgy?

We are excited to share that our 9:30 a.m. Mass in the Church is especially welcoming for families with children! This joyful liturgy is beloved by school families and parents with young children. Children will be dismissed by the presider following the Gospel. Children will be engaged in prayer, and lessons related to the theme of the Sunday Gospel.

If you would like to assist in this ministry, call 239-334-2161.

Baby Quilt Raffle

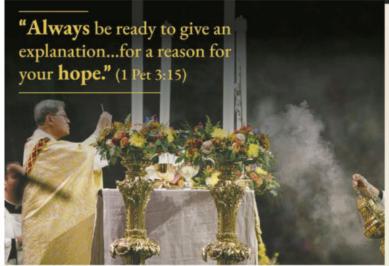
Three beautiful Baby Quilts, handmade with loving hands, with proceeds going to the Fort Myers Community Pregnancy Center. Tickets are available after the Saturday 4pm mass and after the 9:30. & 11:30 Sunday masses.



TICKETS \$5 each. Or 5 for \$20 There will be 3 drawings (one for each quilt) on November 1, 2025

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus





Catechetical Sunday

FAITH FORMATION, YOUTH GROUPS, AND SACRAMENTAL PREP STARTS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST AT 10 A.M.

What is a Catechist?

They are teachers who pass on our Catholic Faith to children and adults.

We can use your help as a Catechist Assistant this year. Please contact Michael at the Parish Office at 239-334-2161 for more information.



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church joyfully invite you to join us for the installation of Father Steve Clemente the Pastor.

This special Mass will be presided over by Bishop Frank J. Dewane and will mark a new chapter for our parish community. Your presence will help make this a truly memorable and blessed occasion.

- iii Sunday, October 19, 2025
- 11:30 a.m. Mass
- St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

A luncheon reception will follow the Mass in the parish hall, where we can all extend warm wishes to Fr. Steve as he officially continues his ministry with us. Please come to this special mass and reception to celebrate this historical event!

☐ I would like to speak with a priest about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.



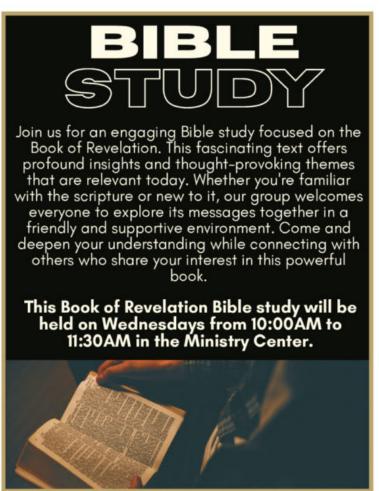
Fr. Steve Clemente

WELCOME to our parish

If you would like to enroll, change your address, or if you simply have questions about our parish, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Church Office:

2133 Heitman Street Fort Myers, FL 33901

2133 Heitman Street Fo	ort Myers, FL 33901.	
Name:		
Street Address:	City:	State:
Zip Code: Phone Number:	Email:	
 □ I would like to enroll as an active parishioner. □ Please change my address to the one shown above. □ I would like to learn more about school/parish activities. □ I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith. □ I would like to offer the name of a homebound or seriously ill 	Catholic who is not being visi	ited:

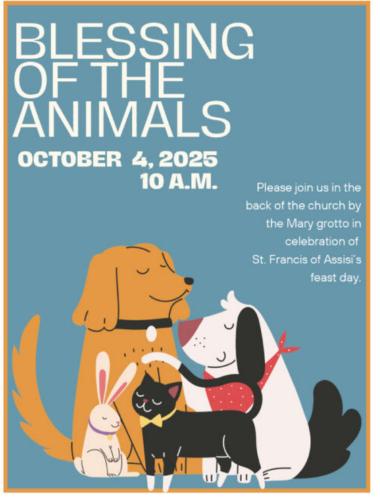














Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Rally

October 4 at 12 p.m. Parish Hall



We will pray the Rosary and other prayers with a break for lunch, provided.

Handouts and Rosaries available if needed.

Everyone is invited.

Bring your Rosary, family, and friends all ages welcome!

HOLY MASS

PREPARATION AND ARRIVAL



Arrive Early Allow time for prayer and reflection before Mass begns,



Dress Modestly

Choose appropriate aitre that reflects the sacredness of the occasion.



Fasting

Catholies are typically required to fast from food and onx (except water) for one hour before receiving Holy Comm.



Silence

Maintaine silence in church to allow for prayer and reflection.



Turn off Devices

Ensure all electronic -devices are silenced or turned ofr to avoid distractions.

SPECIFIC POINTS



Holy Water

Bless youred wih holy water upon entering and leaving the church as a reminder of your



Tabernacle

Genuflect towards tabernacle before sitting and after leaving your pew.



Eucharistic Prayer

Maintain silence and reverece.

DURING MASS



Sign of the Cross

Bless yourself with holy water upon entering and leaving the church.



Genuflect

Before sitting in your pew. genuflect (knee) brieffy) towards the Eucharist (s reserved).



Participate

Engage actively bby singing, responding, and praying with the community.



Respectful Silence

Refrain from talking, chewing gum, or engaging in any disruptive behavior.



Receive Holy Communion with Reverence

If receiving, aproars with a bow, and consume the host immediately.



Do Not Leave Early

Stay until the Mass comcludes with the final blessing and recessional.

AFTER MASS



Consider staying



for a few minutes of quiet prayer and thanksgiving after Mass.



Recessional



Remain in your pew until the priest and ministers have processed out

_

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.

PRAYER FOR SAFETY IN HURRICANE SEASON

You are still the Master of land and sea.

We live in the shadow of a danger
over which we have no control:
the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant,
can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep
its conventional boundaries, invade our land,
and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father.

Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

COMPOSED BY MOST REV. MAURICE SCHEXNAYDER (1895-1981), SECOND BISHOP OF LAFAYETTE (1956-1973), FOLLOWING HURRICANE AUDREY IN 1957

On Catechetical Sunday, we:

... recognize the Church's mission to share the Gospel. ... celebrate those who help others learn our faith. ... reflect on how all baptized people share in the call to help the world know Jesus.



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

OCIA is a gradual process of conversion that takes place in an informal setting while participants learn about the Catholic Church.

OICA offers Catholics who have not recieved Confirmation the opportunity to complete their Sacraments of Initiation to grow in faith and to learn about the beauty of the Catholic way of life.

> The time to act is now! Classes will begin very soon.

Contact Michael Reardon at 239-334-2161.



Candles are...

Essential to Catholic Celebrations

In most every part of Catholic celebrations and rituals, lighting of candles play a very significant role. Candles are lighted during the celebration of the Mass, on liturgical and funeral processions and evening prayer ceremonies. Candles are lit before the Tabernacle to signify the Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament and to call for reverence on the part of the faithful.

ART AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Art and Environment Committee creates an environment in the church that reflects the liturgical seasons of the Church in an effort to instill a deeper participation in the liturgy by those assembled. Visual effects are meant to enhance the spiritual experience and draw us closer to Christ. Some seasons of the year are busier than others for this ministry. For example, more help is needed during the Christmas and Easter season.

Volunteers are needed to assist the team in executing its plans for some of the major liturgical feasts and celebrations. They are also needed to assist in watering the plants at church and taking care of the flower arrangements. If you are creative or have a passion for design, we need you.

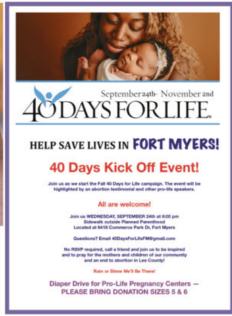
Please call 239-334-2161 on how you can assist.





Scan the QR code to join the prayer chain











Sidewalk Counseling Training

Learn how to help abortion-vulnerable mothers CHOOSE LIFE using the peaceful, prayerful, proven method of Sidewalk Advocates for Life



Saturday, September 20th from 9am-2pm Ave Maria University

OR

Saturday, November 8th from 9am-2pm St. John XXIII Catholic Church, Fort Myers

Training is free. Lunch and workbook provided.

Online training also available!



Contact:

Bob Reynolds at rgrcons1@gmail.com OR Cyrille Velasco at cyrillevelasco@gmail.com

Abuse Reporting

An allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by anyone should be reported immediately to:
Florida Department of Children and Families Child Abuse Hotline:
1-800-96ABUSE (800-962-2873) or visit https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us.

If the alleged abuser is a diocesan employer/clergy/volunteer, also notify our diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (941) 416-6114.





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