

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

A Catholic parish community served by the Carmelite Order
19 September 2021
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Above: *Christ Blessing Little Children* by Charles Lock Eastlake, 1839.

*“Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them,
“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me;
and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.” (Mk 9: 36-37)*



Rev. Frederick J. Tillotson, O. Carm.
Pastor

Main Office (941) 966-0807
425 S. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229 www.olmc-osprey.org

Parish Life

Parish Calendar

Sunday, September 19 —October 3

(Mass Intentions shown for first week only)

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept 19

Mass: 8:30am, 10:30am (Saturday Vigil 4:00pm)

Intentions, 4:00pm: People of the Parish

Intentions, 8:30am: + Don Henderson, Wanda Shaugnessy

Intentions, 10:30am: + Robert Axiom, + Lois Harmes

- **Welcome back! Family Faith Formation begins 9:00am**

Monday, Sept 20

Mass: 8:00am.

Intentions: +Barbara Anne Lynn, + Mary Frances Lynn

- “Lives of Great Christians,” 10:30am—Noon, in Rms 4-6

Tuesday, Sept 21

Mass: 8:00am.

Intentions: Jerry Lynn, + Jeff Bowling

- “Breaking Open the Word,” Scripture reading & reflection, 10:30-11:30am, in Library

Wednesday, Sept 22

Mass: 8:00am.

Intentions: + Melody Cruz, + Catalina Cruz

Thursday, Sept 23

Mass: 8:00am.

Intentions: + Jeff Bowling

- Grief Support Group, 10:30am—Noon

Friday, Sept 24

Mass: 8:00am, Adoration: 8:30-9:30am

Intentions: + Nancy Sirizzotti

Saturday, Sept 25

Mass: 8:00am. Confessions: 3:00pm

Intentions: + Rosemary Vaccaro, + Dottie Vinyard

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept 26

Mass: 8:30am, 10:30am (Saturday Vigil 4:00pm)

- Family Faith Formation, 9:00am

Monday, Sept 27

Mass: 8:00am.

- “Lives of Great Christians,” 10:30am—Noon, in Rms 4-6

Tuesday, Sept 28

Mass: 8:00am.

- “Breaking Open the Word,” Scripture reading & reflection, 10:30-11:30am, in Library

Wednesday, Sept 29

Mass: 8:00am.

- Widows & Widowers Prayer Group, 10:30am—Noon

Thursday, Sept 30

Mass: 8:00am.

- Grief Support Group, 10:30am—Noon

Friday, Oct 1

Mass: 8:00am, Adoration: 8:30-9:30am

Saturday, Oct 2

Mass: 8:00am. Confessions: 3:00pm

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Oct 3

Mass: 8:30am, 10:30am (Saturday Vigil 4:00pm)

Today the Church celebrates “Catechetical Sunday

Immediately before the start of the 10:30am Mass (i.e., during announcements), those serving the parish as catechists will be invited to stand in place to be commissioned and receive a special blessing for their catechetical ministry. *Thank you for serving!*

Catechist needed for Family Faith Formation

Do you love working with young children? Do you enjoy teaching our faith to our ‘future church’? A prayerful catechist is needed to lead a small, combined Gr. K & First class. Should be diocesan certified for Safe Environment or willing to complete certification within one month. We gather on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:00am in the classrooms. For additional information, contact Tammy Flippo at (941) 966-0807 x 305 or email: TFlippo@olmc-osprey.org. Thank you for your willingness to give of your time and talent toward this important ministry!

Welcome back, Family Faith Formation!

We begin this Sunday at 9:00am. The diocesan Department of Education /Office of Religious Education, along with this parish, have been preparing for the safe return of our children for Family Faith Formation. The State of Florida Health Department issues a weekly report on the current percentage rates by county of COVID cases. This report may be found at: http://ww11.doh.state.fl.us/comm/partners/covid19_report_archive/covid19-data/covid19_data_latest.pdf. As of the published date of this bulletin, the infection rate for Sarasota county has dropped from 15.2% (as of 9/2/21) to **14.3% (as of 9/15/21)!** When the rate falls below 10%, the children will no longer be required to wear masks for in-class learning. We will continue to monitor the report and publish updates in future bulletins.

Stewardship of Treasure

This year vs. last year as of September 9th, 2021

CFA	2020	2021
Goal	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 247,000.00
Pledge	243,974.00	285,897.00
Payment	232,020.00	279, 079.00

Pastoral Ministry Team

Pastor

Rev. Frederick J. Tillotson, O. Carm.

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Deacon Thomas Grant, Pastoral Minister

Deacontomgrant@gmail.com

Tammy Flippo, Director, Faith Formation & Enrichment

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Marianne Cano, Director, Lay Ministries & Pastoral Care

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Kathleen Lyda, Director of Music

Klyda@olmc-osprey.org

Linda Jefferson, Business Manager

Ljefferson@olmc-osprey.org

From the Diocese

Faith and Blue Weekend

National Faith and Blue Weekend is October 8-11. The activities are meant to help law enforcement connect with the communities they serve and to strengthen that bond. The Diocese of Venice Catholic School students will be creating special thank you cards to be delivered to the local police and sheriff's departments. Parishes are encouraged to pray for law enforcement over the four days. For additional information, visit: <https://faithandblue.org/>.

Respect Life Sunday/Month

October 3 is national Respect Life Sunday and the month of October is Respect Life Month. The annual Respect Life Diocesan Collection will be taken on October 2-3. Watch for a letter from Bishop Dewane to be included in next weekend's bulletin that further discusses this annual collection.

40 Days for Life

The **Fall 40 Days for Life** campaign runs worldwide beginning Wednesday, September 22 through Sunday, October 31, including Sarasota. Join others in peaceful, prayerful witness for the end to abortion. For details, visit: www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or contact Rich at: Ph. 941- 923-0752 or email 40DFLSarasota@gmail.com.

Prayer for Safety During Hurricane Season

With the 2021 Hurricane Season well underway as evidenced by Hurricane Ida that made landfall in Louisiana as a Category 4 hurricane, a prayer for safety during Hurricane Season will also be included. The season will continue through November 30. All are encouraged to pray for protection from the storms that often threaten Southwest Florida. The devastation of recent hurricanes reinforces the fact that we need to pray for God's protection and care. One suggested prayer is a "Prayer for Safety In Hurricane Season" which was composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981), Second Bishop of Lafayette. **This prayer may be found on the last page of this bulletin.**



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 10, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With the recent devastating impact of Hurricane Ida across several states, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is calling upon all Dioceses to support those impacted by Hurricane Ida.

The powerful category 4 Hurricane caused devastation to parts of Louisiana, before moving across northeastern states bringing record rainfall to Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Complicating matters further is the COVID-19 pandemic, as outbreaks of the Delta Variant have left hospitals at or near capacity, and in some cases, flooded and without electricity.

Hurricane Ida severely damaged and destroyed homes, schools, hospitals, businesses, and churches. More importantly, lives have been lost and communities are truly struggling. Help is needed to aid the victims of this storm and to assist in their well-being.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will take up an emergency collection the weekend of September 25 and 26, 2021. Through the Catholic Charities Network your donations will be distributed to support those who are the most vulnerable, providing humanitarian aid (water, food, shelter and medical care), as well as long-term efforts to restore communities after widespread destruction. Thank you for your generosity and kindness to our brothers and sisters in these very difficult times. Please continue to pray for victims of all-natural disasters!

This opportunity is taken to extend to each of 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

1000 Pinebrook Road • Venice, FL 34285 • 941-484-9543 • www.dioceseofvenice.org • Fax 941-488-2561

Prayers for Cuba and Haiti

The Diocese of Venice Offices have received numerous requests for prayers for the suffering of the people in Cuba and Haiti. Considering the recent protests in Cuba, we express our solidarity with our Cuban brothers and sisters. We also are called to pray for our Haitian brothers and sisters who are in a state of political and social unrest with a recent earthquake and tropical storms. In response to their pleas, Prayers of the Faithful will include our prayers for them on Sundays as well as Daily Masses in the upcoming weeks. Let us continue to pray for the Cuban people in their fight against this brutal communist regime, and for the people of Haiti struggling to find peace in this time of political unrest, violence, and absolute poverty.

Evangelization and Catechesis / Adult Faith Special Events

Join us for the first of our luncheon talks for our new adult faith Speaker Series!

Lunch is provided but reservations are needed to properly plan.

Sign up at the front desk to reserve your spot and then make plans to join the conversation.

OLMC Life-long Adult Faith Formation

Fall 2021 Lunch Speaker Series



Estate *and* Trust Litigation *in* Florida

Stories from the Trenches and Minimizing the
Possibility of Litigation Over Your Estate Plan

Wednesday, October 6th, 12:30-1:30pm
in Tillotson Hall (*Lunch served at 12:00pm*)

Please **REGISTER** to attend. Ph. 941-966-0807 or email: TFlippo@olmc-osprey.org
or sign-up at the front desk.

Bonnie L. Polk is a partner at the law firm of Williams Parker where she practices in the litigation department. Bonnie assists clients involved in probate and trust disputes, representing trustees, personal representatives, beneficiaries, and interested third parties in trust proceedings, will contests, and other fiduciary litigation. Bonnie also represents clients involved in corporate and real estate disputes.



Bonnie L. Polk, J.D.

Ms. Polk serves on the board of directors for Cenacle Legal Services and the Catholic Lawyers Guild, and she serves on the Advisory Board for Cardinal Mooney Catholic High School. She was recently elected Chair of the Twelfth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. Ms. Polk is a recipient of the Judge John M. Scheb American Inn of Court Professionalism Award and the Sarasota County Bar Association C.L. McKaig Award for Distinguished Service. She is AV Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the organization's highest peer rating standard. The rating is given to attorneys who are ranked at the highest level of professional excellence for their legal expertise, communication skills, and ethical standards by their peers.



Looking Ahead

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 3 | "We Remember: World War II, Cuban Missile Crisis and the NATO Air Command: Afghanistan" with Veterans and parishioners Charles Palmeri, Warren Augenthaler and Dawn Sweet |
| December 1 | "Elder Abuse: Signs & Prevention" with Sarah Gualco Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida (AAASWFL) |
| January 19, 2022 | "The Holocaust: International Day of Remembrance" (Speaker TBA), Jewish Federation of Sarasota |
| February 16 | "Estate Planning" with Michael Morse, Executive Director Catholic Community Foundation |

September 20

Memorial of Saint Andrew Kim Taegön, Priest, and Companions

The Christian Faith reached Korea early in the 17th century through the work of many dedicated people. During this time, a vibrant community emerged and flourished under lay leadership until 1836 when members of the Paris Foreign Mission Society secretly entered the country. During the persecutions of 1839, 1846, 1866 and 1868, one hundred and three members of the Christian community were martyred. Two outstanding members of this group were the first Korean priest and pastor, Andrew Kim Taegon, and the lay catechist, Paul Chong Hasang. The martyrs also included bishops and priests but most were lay men, women and children. Pope Saint John Paul II canonized these Martyrs of Korea in 1984 at the cathedral in Seoul, Korea. Together they are honored as the patron saints of Korea.

September 20 also marks the day the Church celebrates the memory of **Blessed Mary Teresa of St. Joseph** (Anna Maria Tauscher van den Bosch), founder of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus. Mary Teresa was inspired to serve neglected children in Germany and in 1912, traveled to the United States to establish the first community of her sisters in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Blessed Mary Teresa of St. Joseph died in 1938 and was beatified in 2006.

September 23

Memorial of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

The man who became known around the world as “Padre Pio” was born 25 May 1887 in Pietrelcina, southern Italy. He entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Franciscans in 1903 at the age of 15. Shortly after his 1910 ordination, Pio experienced pains in his hands and feet followed by “invisible stigmata” for over a year. In 1918, Pio also had the mystical experience of *transverberation* (being pierced by a lance) which left a continuously-bleeding wound in his side. One month later, the stigmata in his hands and feet did become visible and remained so until his last Mass, celebrated the day before he died. Placed under close observation by the Church, Pio was suspended for two years from all priestly functions (except saying Mass privately). People continuously flocked to the friar, seeking guidance and to make their confession. Pope Pius XII encouraged him to form prayer groups among the faithful. In 1940, Padre Pio helped establish a hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo, not far from his friary. Pio died on 23 September 1968. His public funeral attracted over 100,000 mourners. On 16 June 2002, over 500,000 faithful followers gathered in Rome to witness Pope John Paul II proclaim Padre Pio “Saint Pio of Pietrelcina.”

September 21

Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle

“Jesus saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him: Follow me.” (Mt 9:9)

“Jesus saw Matthew not merely in the usual sense, but more significantly with his merciful understanding of men. He saw the tax collector and because he saw him through the eyes of mercy and chose him, he said to him: ‘Follow me.’ This following meant imitating the pattern of his life – not just walking after him.”

~ Saint Bede the Venerable

Honored as the author of the Gospel that bears his name, Matthew was born in Capernaum and is listed as one of the Twelve Apostles. Called “Levi” by both Mark and Luke, the Gospels tell us that Matthew was a tax collector before choosing to follow Christ. Although we know nothing certain about his ministry after Pentecost, scholars believe that he preached the Gospel in Judea and later traveled to Ethiopia or Persia. The Roman Martyrology states that Matthew was martyred in Persia after which his relics were transferred to Salerno, Italy, in the tenth century. Saint Matthew is honored as the patron saint of accountants, bankers and bookkeepers.

Shown below is the well-known painting, *The Call of Saint Matthew*, completed in 1599-1600 by artist (Michelangelo Merisi da) Caravaggio. It is considered his masterpiece. It depicts the scene from the Gospel of Matthew in which Jesus (shown at far right) points to Matthew asking him to follow him. Art historians



Enlarged detail

debate which figure in the scene is actually Matthew. Some believe he is the man with black hat and beard looking at Jesus with his hand pointing to himself. Other historians believe that this same man is actually pointing to the figure seated at the end of the table to indicate the real Matthew; the figure depicted counting the money with his head bowed.

Stuck in the Past

By Father John Welch, O.Carm.



It is very hard to let go of our past. Many of us live in the past, clinging to hurts, disappointments and especially our guilt. The Lord is always calling us forward into our future, but we are stuck in our past. When we wallow in our past, we lose perspective. We miss the daily invitations to walk forward in faith. It is like trying to drive while always looking in the rear-view mirror.

The heart can make anything into an idol, into a false god. We can readily admit to making idols out of obvious things such as wealth and power, but to see the past as an idol may be more difficult. In our preoccupation with the past, in our obsessive rehearsal of it, the past becomes a “god.” I worship at its altar and become enslaved by it. When we cling to our past, we are actually exalting ourselves. We are making our lives, our sins, our wrong turns so monumental we are sure the world has never seen such a mess and that even God has walked away. Our ego can be inflated in telling our story in this grandiose way. Ego is good at making everything about “us.”

Letting Go

We cannot change the past. And we are who we are because of it. We may even have to make amends because of it. But, what can change is our relationship to it. The past does not have to define us and hold us back. Letting go of the past can be a matter of simply being more aware of our attachment to it, and slowly, with the aid of grace, learning to live in the present. Or, our fixation on the past may be such that only a crisis opens us to change, and a new perspective. A dark time may be the occasion for healing and a growth in wholeness. That surrender may come only after we realize we are powerless to extract ourselves from our past. In the confusion, then, our ego may be open to God’s love luring us past where we have found ourselves stuck. Some wounds of the past may require professional help, but that, too, can be a grace-enabled effort.

Our faith tells us the Paschal Mystery, the dying and rising of Christ, will be the rhythm of our days. Letting go of an unhealthy regard for our past can be one of those deaths that leads to new life. The very struggle we have with our past, and the discovery of God’s mercy in that struggle, can help us be bearers of forgiveness and compassion for others. The truth of our lives is that we are loved by God in spite of everything. Mercy, forgiveness and healing are always available.

The Bigger Picture

We do not have to make sense of it all. We may be unable to connect all the dots in our past. We cannot because we live immersed in Mystery. Only from the outside can our lives be made intelligible. God can take the jumbled pieces of our story, our ego-drama and put them into their place in the great theo-drama, the story the spirit is telling. Our lives are really the story of God’s mercies. Consider Israel’s past. Israel continually rehearsed all the ways it had not been faithful to God. But the important memory was about all the ways God had been faithful to Israel:

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The prophet Isaiah said:

Thus says the Lord:

Remember not the events of the past;

The things of long ago, consider not.

See, I am doing something new...it is I,

I, who wipe out, for my own sake, your offenses;

Your sins I remember no more.” (Is 43:18, 19, 25)

If God forgives and forgets our sinful past, what excuse do we have to remember it? Of course, we will not have amnesia. But what we will remember from the past are the blessings, the miracles that accompanied our days and years. We will remember when we were brought from slavery into freedom. And this memory will allow us to live the present in peace, and to anticipate the future without fear.

Eucharistic Celebration ~ Order of Worship

Introductory

Rites

Processional Hymn:

Take Up Your Cross

Greeting

Penitential Act

Glory to God

Collect

Liturgy of the

Word

First Reading

Wis 2:12, 17-20

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

Jaime Cortez

Refrain

Take up your cross, take up your cross, take up your cross
and fol - low me. Take up your cross, take up your cross,
take up your cross and fol - low me.

Verse 1

1. Who - ev - er wish - es to come af - ter me must de - ny him -
1. self; who - ev - er wish - es to come af - ter me must
to Refrain
1. take up his cross, and fol - low me.

Verse 2

2. Who - ev - er wish - es to save his life will lose it,
to Refrain
2. who - ev - er los - es his life for my sake will find it.

Verse 3 (Bridge)

3. Why gain the whole world but lose your soul?
to Refrain
3. Why gain the whole world but lose your soul?

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The wicked say: Let us beset the just one, hand of his foes.
because he is obnoxious to us; he sets With revilement and torture let us put the
himself against our doings, reproaches us just one to the test that we may have
for transgressions of the law and charges us proof of his gentleness and try his
with violations of our training. patience.

Let us see whether his words be true; let us Let us condemn him to a shameful death;
find out what will happen to him. for according to his own words, God will
take care of him.

For if the just one be the son of God, God will defend him and deliver him from the **The Word of the Lord.**

Eucharistic Celebration

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6 and 8

The Lord up - holds my life.

Second Reading

Jas 3:16—4:3

A Reading from the Letter of James

Beloved:

Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist,
there is disorder and every foul practice.

But the wisdom from above is first of all
pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full
of mercy and good fruits, without
inconstancy or insincerity.

And the fruit of righteousness is sown in
peace for those who cultivate peace.

Where do the wars and where do the
conflicts among you come from?

Is it not from your passions that make war
within your members?

You covet but do not possess.

You kill and envy but you cannot obtain;
you fight and wage war.

You do not possess because you do not
ask.

You ask but do not receive, because you ask
wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Mk 9:30-37

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began
a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish
anyone to know about it.

He was teaching his disciples and telling them,
“The Son of Man is to be handed over to men
and they will kill him, and three days after his
death the Son of Man will rise.”

But they did not understand the saying, and they
were afraid to question him.

They came to Capernaum and, once inside the
house, he began to ask them, “What were you
arguing about on the way?”

But they remained silent.

They had been discussing among themselves on

the way who was the greatest.

Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to
them,

“If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

Taking a child, he placed it in the their midst, and
putting his arms around it, he said to them,

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my
name, receives me;

and whoever receives me, receives not me but the
One who sent me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Homily

Eucharistic Celebration

Profession of Faith:

Nicene Creed

Universal Prayer

R/ Lord, hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Altar

Offertory Hymn

Instrumental (Solo)

Eucharistic Prayer

Preface

Holy Holy Holy

Consecration

Mystery of Faith

Doxology

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion

Communion Hymn

Transfigure us, O Lord

Prayer after Communion

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

TRANSFIGURE US, O LORD

Bob Hurd

Refrain

Trans - fig - ure us, O Lord, trans - fig - ure us, O Lord.

Break the chains that bind us; speak your heal - ing word, and

where you lead we'll fol - low. Trans - fig - ure us, O Lord.

Verses

1. Down from heights of glo - ry in - to the depths be - low, the
2. Light for those in dark - ness, the hun - gry have their fill, glad
3. Par - don for the sin - ner, a shep - herd for the sheep, a
4. To the ho - ly cit - y, Je - ru - sa - lem, you go; your

1. love of God self - emp - tied, the love of God to show. You
2. tid - ings for the hum - ble, the heal - ing of all ills; in
3. drink of liv - ing wa - ter for all who thirst and seek, and
4. face set toward the end - ing, the cross to be your throne. ♪

to Refrain

1. light the path be - fore us, the way that we must go.
2. these we glimpse your glo - ry, God's prom - is - es ful - filled.
3. feast - ing at your ta - ble, the low - ly and the least.
4. Shall we jour - ney with you and share your pasch - al road?

Eucharistic Celebration

Concluding Rites

Blessing

Dismissal

Recessional Hymn

*Take The Word of God
With You*

TAKE THE WORD OF GOD WITH YOU

Christopher Walker



1. Take the word of God with you as you go.
2. Take the peace of God with you as you go.
3. Take the joy of God with you as you go.
4. Take the *love of God with you as you go.



1. Take the seeds of God's word and make them grow.
2. Take the seeds of God's peace and make them grow.
3. Take the seeds of God's joy and make them grow.
4. Take the seeds of God's love and make them grow.



Go in peace to serve the world, in peace to serve the world.



Take the love of God, the love of God with you as you go.

*Add other words if needed, such as "faith," "hope," etc.

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Ate, missa est

Go, you are sent...!

*To all Visitors,
Thank you for worshipping
with us today!*

*Welcome packets along with
registration information may be
found in the gathering space or
inquire at the front desk.*

Prayer for Safety In Hurricane Season

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.

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 storm-less eternity awaits us.
Amen.

Composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981),
Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956-1973), following
Hurricane Audrey in 1957.

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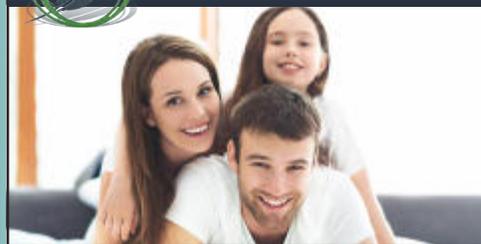


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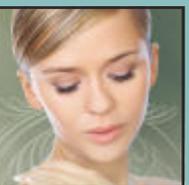
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