

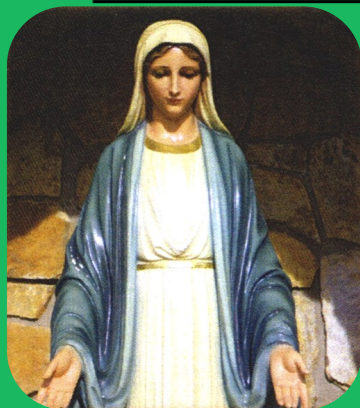
Our Lady of Grace



Catholic Parish

595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757



Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Fr. Ronnie Sison
Pastor

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Confession

3:30 PM English
6:30 PM Spanish

Vigil Mass

4 PM English
7 PM Spanish

Sunday

8 AM and 10:30 AM

Holy Days

Vigil Mass 6:30 PM
8 & 10:30 AM

Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday
8 AM

First Friday

Mass and Holy Hour
8 AM

Visit us on the web!
www.ologap.org

17th Sunday Ordinary Time

July 26, 2026

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A
MERCHANT SEEKING FINE PEARLS,
AND UPON FINDING ONE PEARL OF
GREAT VALUE, HE WENT AND SOLD
ALL THAT HE HAD AND BOUGHT IT.

MATTHEW 13:45-46



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Have you registered your children for the SOR?

*Have you considered sharing the 'pearl of great
Value' as a catechist with your children?*

Would you volunteer as a Catechist in the SOR?

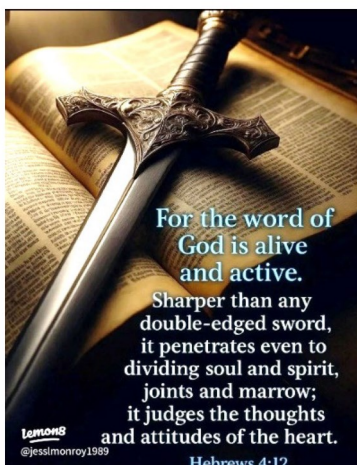


Is my life a personal, living commentary on the Bible?

On the popular public television program *Antiques Roadshow*, people from around the country bring their treasures to be appraised by various experts. An antique might be a cherished family heirloom displayed proudly in a prominent place in the home, or a long-forgotten trinket gathering dust on a shelf in the attic. Whatever the item, the owner is usually surprised to hear the expert's comments. The appraiser might put a low-price tag on something the owner thought had great value. And what was purchased for a few dollars sometimes turns out now to be valued at thousands of dollars.

What is your family's most valued possession? Is it an object, a person, a relationship? How does your family express delight and pride in this treasured possession?

The Second Vatican Council teaches that *"the treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly so that a richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's Word" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, no. 51). Is the family Bible among your home's most valuable possessions? Regardless of whether it is prominently displayed or is gathering dust on a shelf, is the Bible one of the most valuable spiritual treasures in a Christian home.*



A Living and Effective Word

"Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern the reflections and thoughts of the heart," writes the author of the *Letter to the Hebrews* (4:12). God's Word is *"living and effective"* because we welcome it, in the words of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (2nd ed.), *"not as a human word, 'but as what it really is, the word of God'"* (CCC, no. 104).

How is the Word of God to become *"living and effective"* in our homes, our families, our professional and social relationships? **The lives of the Saints were living commentaries on the Word of God. Our lives can become living commentaries on the Word of God.**

From Hearing to Living God's Word

The life of a saint is like a good Bible commentary. Recall the words of St. Francis, **"Preach, and if necessary, use words."** The saints stand out because of their unique, graced capacity to be **not only hearers but doers of God's Word (Jas 1:22).** God's Word becomes real in their lives.

Take St. Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church, and the powerful story of his conversion. In book 8 of his *Confessions*, Augustine recounts a turning point in his life. While sitting in a garden, he heard **the voice of a child** chanting over and over again, **"Take it and read, take it and read."** Turning to pick up a Bible that he had set down only moments earlier; he read a passage from the writings of St. Paul that called him away from the life he once led. He goes on to write, **"I had no wish to read more and no need to do so. For in an instant, as I came to the end of the sentence, it was as though the light of confidence flooded into my heart and all the darkness of doubt was dispelled."** The rest of Augustine's life and work was spent living out the meaning of God's word. **Enthroned the Bible in your home!** Read it; listen to it; and, most important, live it.

**Collection for Church Service Center
Weekend of August 1st/2nd**



We invite Parishioners to bring non-perishable food to Church next weekend, August 1/2, for the Church Service Center (CSC). The CSC distributes food to approximately **300/400 families** every month, which represents approximately **1,000 poor neighbors** here in Avon Park.

We will also take a **second collection** at all masses next weekend to assist those who come to the CSC soliciting **help with water and electric bills and with rent payments.**

First Saturday Mass, August 1, 8 a.m.

There will be an **8 a.m. mass** on the First Saturday, August 1st. It will be offered for deceased benefactors of the Parish.

Confessions will follow the **8:30 a.m. Mass.**

The intention at the 1st Saturday 8 a.m. Mass is for deceased benefactors of OLG. They include: Sarah McDonald, Frances & Audrey Pepper, Orlando Nardone, Maria Guerrero, Mary Litwinski, Norma George, Fred Bruno, Loumella Faust, Paul Brazinski, Donald McCormack, Lester Reinbolt, John Lacenski, Mary Ann Bland, William & MaryAnn Patterson.



Give your children a Moral Compass

Should I tell the truth? Should I copy from my friend's homework, or let him copy from mine? Should I watch this racy DVD? Should I treat a classmate with kindness?

Young children probably won't use the words moral dilemma to describe these scenarios, but they do understand that some decisions are harder than others, and that some choices are better than others. As kids get older, they understand the pressure to conform to an immoral culture—a culture with challenges not faced by previous generations.

Children, like their adult parents, are living in a very confusing time. **Moral relativism in our culture is pervasive. Children live with a maze of confusion.**

Simon and Garfunkel in their song *"The Sounds of silence"* give expression to this confusion in a line from their hit song, *"Hello darkness my old friend."*

Jesus describes himself as the **"moral compass"** in references like, **"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life,"** and **"I am the Light."** Enroll your children in the school of Religion. Give them a moral compass.

For information, contact Myara Donan, Director of Religious Education, or, drop by the School of Religion Office, Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Or, Call (863) 453-7537.



Our Lady of Grace

BACK TO SCHOOL

Supply Drive

**Collecting until
August 2nd**

Your Donations Matters!
Help children in the community
prepare for the upcoming school
year.



Supplies Needed:

Pencils, Markers, Colored pencils, Erasers, Backpacks, highlighters, Glue sticks, Composition paper, notebooks, dry erase markers, crayons, folders, binders, scissors etc.

Drop off Locations:

In the Main office or at the drop off box located in the Church's main entrance

MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!



For more information please contact : Mayra Donan
(863) 214-3025 or (863) 453-7537

595 E Main St. Avon Park Fl, 33825





Jesús hoy ofrece a sus discípulos tres parábolas sobre el Reino de los Cielos, y en el centro de cada una se encuentra una figura que descubre algo de valor incomparable y, en respuesta, actúa con total entrega. El hombre que encuentra un tesoro en un campo no duda. El comerciante que descubre la perla preciosa no negocia ni se demora. Ambos venden todo lo que tienen. No hay dolor en desprenderse de lo menos una vez encontrado lo más importante.

Así es la conversión. La conversión no es principalmente alejarse de algo malo, sino volverse hacia algo tan profundamente bueno que todo lo demás se deja de lado voluntariamente. La invitación que Jesús extiende no es a la privación, sino a la reorganización. Les pregunta a sus discípulos: ¿Ya han descubierto qué es lo que realmente vale la pena? Y si lo han hecho, ¿su vida refleja ese descubrimiento?

Pablo amplía esta visión aún más. Nos recuerda que, para quienes aman a Dios, todo contribuye para el bien. No solo las cosas cómodas, no sólo los éxitos, sino todo. Esta es una afirmación asombrosa que sólo cobra sentido cuando comprendemos que Dios nos ha llamado, nos ha justificado y está en proceso de glorificarnos, conformándonos a la imagen de su Hijo. Cada hilo de nuestra vida, incluso los dolorosos y confusos, se entrelaza con esa historia.

La pregunta de hoy no es si el Reino de los Cielos vale la pena. La pregunta es si realmente lo hemos encontrado ya y si lo vemos sinceramente como la perla muy valiosa por la que daríamos todo. —Tommy Shultz



EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

Grados K-12

Post Confirmación Y Adultos

La Oficina está abierta martes a viernes de 9am a 5pm para inscripciones. Se ofrece descuento por inscripciones hechas durante el mes de Julio. Para información llamar Mayra Doñan 863-453-7537.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN "SANTISIMA TRINIDAD"

Se reúne los jueves a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia. Rosario a las 6:30. Para información llamar 863-448-6869 o 863-528-8267.

GRUPO JUAN XXIII

Se reúne los martes en el salón Juan Bosco a las 7:00PM. Para información llamar 863-205-0694 o 863-852-0065.



En una de las guerras, una bala de cañón le hirió la rodilla. Estando en recuperación le dieron a leer los Evangelios y la vida de los santos. Como él siempre había soñado con cosas mayores, encontró en la vida de los santos algo que realmente valía la pena y renunció a su ambición militar para servir a Dios. A partir de ahí inició una conversión que lo llevó a entregarse a Dios por completo y a ayudar a otras personas a que encontraran a Dios en todo.

MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY JULY 25**

4:00 p.m. + Michael Rand by Family.

7:00 p.m. + Nestor Peralta by Tata Batista.

SUNDAY JULY 26

8:00 a.m. + Carol Jacob by Family.

10:30 a.m. + Rosalia Cabrera by Fe.

MONDAY JULY 27

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY JULY 28

8:00 a.m. + Betty & Anthony Minielli by Linda Beman.

WEDNESDAY JULY 29

8:00 a.m. Birthday – Grace Elizabeth Sourini by Paul & Justine Devlin.

THURSDAY JULY 30

8:00 a.m. + Francisca Villegas by Maria Deada.

FRIDAY JULY 31

8:00 a.m. + Bruce Lillpop by Mary Lee.

SATURDAY AUGUST 1

4:00 p.m. + William & Virginia Cook by Evelyn Seely.

7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass.

EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN

To give spiritual support to those who are undergoing health or personal problems that call for immediate prayer, we have established an “**Emergency Prayer Chain**” made up of prayer volunteers who respond to personal requests. Confidentiality is assured. To request prayers, contact **Kevin Murphy** by text (863) 443-1852 or email (kmurphy8479@gmail.com).

FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Joan Morgan	Candida Reyes	Kathy Furtado
Rosa Arosemena	Andres Clavijo	Jade Jackson
Martha Clavijo	Carol Krause	Donna Skelly
Roger Brelinski	Jean Rapp	Rosemary Melinson
Cameron Prosperi	Deb Perry	Louise Schorsch
Donald Schorsch	Ed Carrigan	Joey Prescott
Bea Pedara	Marty Worley	Sharon Ingalls
Susan Beaudoin	Amy Slane	Jeff Babbitt
Rose Brault	Waylen James	Sherry
Jerry Grinkiewicz	Kim Nuccio	Jeannie Stopa
Jim Stopa	Marie Burley	Rick Burley
Ron Maslyk	Kathy Reisert	Clay Gooch
Janice Vreeland	Joan Trace	Jan Raccine
Paul Repa	Joan Reetz	Brenda Buergi
Jackie & Steven	Waylon James Adams	
Michael Thomas Adams		Earl Hershberger
Jennifer Vohs	Terry O'Leary	Coty Quillman

And for those who care for the sick, for the deceased member's and benefactors of the parish, and for our loved ones.

HURRICANE PRAYER

God, our Father, Creator and Lord of the Universe, You have set the earth on its foundation and all elements of nature obey your command. We humbly beseech you to keep us safe from all dangers and calm the storms that may threaten us. May we be secure in your loving protection and serve you always with grateful hearts. We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

Staff & Ministries

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Eric Quiel
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863-414-5002

Women's Guild

Debora Augusta
President
(863)991-1020

OCIA Director

Travis & Dawn Crosson
(863)453-4757

Parish Council

President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



Partnership

I dreamed I stood in a studio and watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind and they fashioned
it with care.

One was a teacher: the tools he used were books, music and art.
One was a parent with a guiding hand and a gentle loving heart.
Day after day the teacher toiled with a touch that was deft and
sure

While the parent labored by his side & polished & made it pure.
And when at last their task was done, they were proud of what
they had wrought,

For the things they had molded into the child could neither be
sold or bought.

And each agreed he would have failed if they had
worked alone,

For behind the parent, stood the school and behind the
teacher.....the home.