

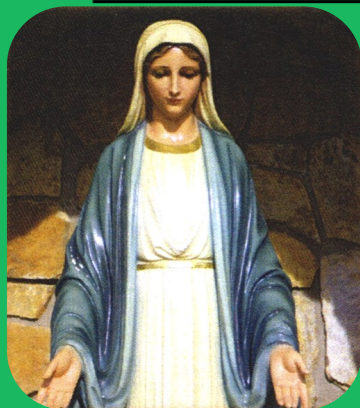
Our Lady of Grace



Catholic Parish

595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757



18th Sunday Ordinary Time

August 2, 2026

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



Jesus rewards the generosity of a young boy

Because of the generosity of the young boy who gave everything he had, namely, **5 barley loaves and 2 fish**, Jesus was able to **feed 5,000 people**.

Are we willing, like **the young boy**, to offer what supplies we have to Jesus, to **'Back to School Supply Drive,'** or, feed **400 to 500 families**, representing **1,200 poor people in Avon Park**, who come to the **Church Service Center** every month seeking food and financial assistance?



The Feast of St. Mary Magdalene – July

Since 2016, by Pope Francis' decision, the “Memorial” of Saint Mary Magdalene was raised to the rank of “feast,” equal to that of the Twelve Apostles. It celebrates her as the first “Apostle of the Apostles.” She was the first to announce the Resurrection to the Apostles, and, through them, to the world.

“Among the ‘lost sheep’ that Jesus led to safety, there was also a woman called Mary, a native of the village of Magdala, on the

Lake of Galilee, and called because of that Magdalene, stressed Benedict XVI at the *Angelus* on July 22, 2012 . . . The Evangelist Luke says that Jesus “cast out seven demons from her” (cf. **Luke 18:2**), that is, that He saved her from total enslavement to the Evil One.

Pope Benedict XVI added: “In what did this profound healing consist that God wrought by Jesus? It consisted in a true, complete peace, fruit of the reconciliation of the person herself and in all her relations: with God, with others, with the world.”

Except for the mother of Jesus, few women are more honored in the Bible than Mary Magdalene. Yet she could well be the patron of the slandered, since there has been a persistent legend in the Church that she is the unnamed sinful woman – a prostitute - who anointed the feet of Jesus in **Luke 7:36-50**.

Most Scripture scholars today point out that **there is no scriptural basis for confusing the two women.** Mary Magdalene, that is, “of Magdala,” was the one from whom Christ cast out “seven demons” (**Luke 18:2**)—an indication at the worst, of extreme demonic possession or possibly, severe illness.

Writing in the *New Catholic Commentary*, **Father Wilfrid J. Harrington, O.P.**, says that “seven demons” “does not mean that Mary had lived an immoral life—a conclusion reached only by means of a mistaken identification with the anonymous woman of Luke 7:36.” In the *Jerome Biblical Commentary*, **Father Edward Mally, SJ**, agrees that she “is not...the same as the sinner of Luke 7:37, despite the later Western romantic tradition about her.”

Mary Magdalene was one of the many “who were assisting them [Jesus and the Twelve] out of their means.” She was one of those who **stood by the cross of Jesus with his mother**. And, of all the “official” witnesses who might have been chosen for **the first awareness of the Resurrection**, she was the one to whom that privilege was given. She is known as the “*Apostle to the Apostles*.”

Here is the Mission that Jesus gave to Mary immediately after his Resurrection: “Jesus said to her [Mary] ‘Do not touch me, because I have not ascended to the Father. *But go and find the brothers, & tell them: I am ascending to my Father & your Father, to my God & your God.*’ So, *Mary went & told the disciples that she had seen the Lord & that he said these things to her.*”

What was so significant about **Jesus’ choice of Mary Magdalene to be the first to announce** the most important announcement in the history of humanity, namely, **the Resurrection**?

Jesus chose a woman, at a time when women were not accepted as witnesses in a Roman court of law, **to witness** to the most important event in human history, **His Resurrection from the dead**.

Friday, August 7th, First Friday

Friday, August 7th, is the First Friday of the month. **The 8 a.m. Mass** will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, which will conclude with Benediction at 9 a.m.



The Practice of the **“Holy Hour”** on First Fridays goes back to the aftermath of the Last Supper. **Jesus took Peter, James and John** – his ‘inner circle’ – **to the Garden of Gethsemane**, immediately after the Last Supper – the celebration of the Eucharist. He brought them for support. After a period of great suffering and sadness in the midst of his prayer, **Jesus came to his three disciples looking for support and solace; he found them asleep.** He chides them with the words, **“Could you not watch one hour with me?”**

This incident after the **Last Supper** – the **First Mass** – gave rise to the practice of a **“Holy Hour” in the context of the Mass on First Fridays.** We invite and encourage you to spend time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday morning.

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



We thank Parishioners for bringing non-perishable food to Church today, 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 this 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.



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



Décimo Octavo Domingo del TIEMPO ORDINARIO



“Todos comieron hasta saciarse...”

El milagro de los panes y los peces es uno de los más conocidos de los Evangelios. Se repita en los cuatro Evangelios. Cuando Jesús realiza un milagro, no intenta alardear de su poder; sus acciones siempre ilustran una enseñanza.

Una de ellas es la compasión de Cristo. Él se compadece de la multitud y, en primer lugar, manifiesta su amor curando a los enfermos. Luego, al ver que tienen hambre, les da de comer. Esto nos recuerda que Jesús conoce nuestras necesidades y se preocupa por nosotros.

El pan nos evoca la tentación de Jesús en el desierto, donde le dijo al tentador que “no solo de pan vive el hombre”. Del mismo modo que el milagro sació el hambre de cinco mil familias, así su palabra saciará el hambre espiritual de millones de personas. El milagro también nos recuerda que Jesús se nos entregará a sí mismo —su Cuerpo y su Sangre, bajo las formas del pan y el vino— para ser nuestro alimento y nuestra bebida.

¿Confiamos en que el Señor proveerá a todas nuestras necesidades? ¿Nos esforzamos por vivir según la palabra de Dios? ¿Aprovechamos el gran don de la Eucaristía? Ya sea a diario o, al menos, semanalmente. __Tom Schmidt



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 Hortencia 863-448-6869 o Adela 863-528-8267.

Cristo cuenta contigo !!



GRUPO JUAN XXIII

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY AUGUST 1

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

7:00 p.m. Alfredo Morfin by Family.
Ismael Guzman.

SUNDAY AUGUST 2

8:00 a.m. Andy Jacob by Family.

10:30 a.m. + Joan Bender by Dorothy
Pansius.

MONDAY AUGUST 3

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY AUGUST 4

8:00 a.m. + All Souls in Purgatory.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5

8:00 a.m. + Dolores Angermeier by
husband.

THURSDAY AUGUST 6

8:00 a.m. Theresa Knell by Lee
Gotwalt.

FRIDAY AUGUST 7

8:00 a.m. + All Souls in Purgatory.
Gladys & Aramis Tejon by
Family.

SATURDAY AUGUST 8

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

7:00 p.m. + Juanito Ocasio Melendez
by Grandchildren Diana &
Javier.

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 ele-
ments of nature obey your
command. We humbly be-
seech you to keep us safe
from all dangers and calm
the storms that may threat-
en us. May we be secure
in your loving protection
and serve you always with
grateful hearts. We ask
this through our Lord, Je-
sus Christ, your Son, who
lives and reigns with you
forever. Amen.

Staff & Ministries

Administrative Assistant

Evelyn Barcinas
Evelyn.Barcinas@ologap.org

Bookkeeper

Linda Beman
linda.beman@ologap.org

Maintenance

Maria Ramirez
Mike DeRosa

Religious Education

Director
Mayra Donan
(863) 453-7537

Music Director

Gene Ryan
mee@generyan.com

Knights of Columbus

Eric Quiel
Grand Knight
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



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 the line from that 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.

Contact Myara Donan, Director of Religious Education, at SOR Office, or, call 453-7537.