

Our Lady of Grace

Catholic Parish

595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 2025

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

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Feast of All Saints – Saturday, Nov. 1 is Not a Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday, November 2, The Mass is the Feast of All Souls



"Your Halo is too tight."

A very stern and humorless lady was not feeling well and made an appointment to see a medical doctor. The doctor began by asking his patient some basic questions.

"Do you drink at all?" "I never touch alcohol!" she said with great disdain.

"Do you smoke?" "Never." She was insulted by the question.

"What about sleeping habits?" "I go to bed early at night," she said haughtily. I have no time for late-night partying. I am a busy woman, in bed by 10 up by six. "I see," said the doctor, making notes on the chart. **"Now exactly what's been the problem?"**

"I have been having terrible headaches," she said.

"I think I see your problem," the doctor said. **"Your halo is too tight."**

Wasn't this exactly what the doctor of souls, Jesus, said about the Pharisee in today's Gospel? **"Your halo is too tight!"** The medicine that Jesus prescribes for the Pharisee is **a parable**. It's what scripture scholars' call a **'mirror parable'**. A **'Mirror parable'** is one in which – as in today's parable – Jesus references 2 characters – **a Pharisee and a publican** – and asks the question, which **character most resembles you?** In the **parable**, the Pharisee contrasts his behavior with the despised & dishonest tax collector and "the greedy, dishonest and adulterous." The Pharisee's prayerful soliloquy is an exercise in self-reliance & self-satisfaction. **Inherent in the Pharisee's prayer is a denial of the need for God, the need for a Savior.**



It reminds me of a Conference in Chicago some years ago, in which three priests did a "take-off" of the Crucifixion based on the adage, **"I'm okay; you're okay," with Jesus looking to the two thieves on either side of him, while saying, "Well, if you are okay and he is okay, what am I doing up here on the Cross?"** The Publican acknowledges that he is a sinner and his need for a Savior: **"O God, be merciful to me, a sinner."** Let me give Max Lucado: the last word:

God sent a Savior.

If our greatest need had been information,

God would have sent us an educator. I

f our greatest need had been technology,

God would have sent us a scientist.

If our greatest need had been money,

God would have sent us an economist.

If our greatest need had been pleasure,

God would have sent us an entertainer.

But our greatest need was forgiveness,

So, God sent us a Savior.



The Feast of All Saints, Saturday, November 1, is not Holy Day of Obligation this year because it falls on a Saturday. Mass at 8:00 A.M.



Sunday, Nov. 2, Feast of All Souls. Masses for Feast of All Souls.

November is referred to as the month of the 'Holy Souls.' During November, we pray for deceased loved ones at Mass every day. If you wish to have a loved one prayed for, you should **fill out one of the envelopes for that purpose, listing the name(s) of the person(s).** Drop the envelope in the Offertory basket. You have envelopes in your packet of envelopes: you can, also, pick them up at Church exits.



"Thanks" for Baby Bottle campaign support.

The K of C Respect Life Committee thanks parishioners for participating in its "Baby Bottle Campaign." Bottles should be returned filled with proceeds, Sat/Sun, Oct 29/30th. Thanks, and, may God bless you.



Church Service Food Collection, Sunday, Nov 2

In the aftermath of the **worst pandemic** in over 100 years, followed by **hurricanes, Ian & Idalia**, leading to **loss of employment, property destruction**, and, many people **destitute**: against this backdrop, we invite you to bring **non-perishable food** to Church, at all masses, next weekend for the **CSC**. A **2nd collection** will be taken at all Masses.



International Food Festival, Sunday, November 9, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., in the Grogan Center.

OLG Religious Education Program Carwash Fundraiser



Sunday, October 26th

8 A.M. – 1 P.M.

Grogan Center Parking Lot

*All proceeds benefit our Religious
Education Program.*

Donations welcome.

Thanks for your Support



November 2 - 8

From U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

The Catholic Church in the U.S. celebrates
National Vocation Awareness Week,
November 2 – 8, 2025.

During this week, dioceses across the U.S. lead the effort in parishes and schools to uphold and encourage the fostering of vocations among the faithful and to pray for

those currently discerning a call to marriage, ordained ministry, or consecrated life.

In his message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, **Pope Francis reminded the faithful that unlike a secular career, a vocation is a gift born from God's own initiative:**

"The Lord's call is not an intrusion of God into our freedom; it is not a 'cage' or burden to be borne. On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be a part of a great undertaking."

Whereas choosing a career requires much **"doing"** – such as the accomplishment of various tasks and goals – **vocational discernment requires much "being."** At its core, vocational discernment is a process of **self-discovery.** Assisted by divine grace, each person is invited by the Lord to receive the gift of a specific vocation whereby they manifest God's love in a particular way to the outside world.

Discernment vocation Prayer:

What is my 'calling' in life?

"God created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.

I have my mission—I never may know it fully in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.

Somehow, I am necessary to His purposes... I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for naught."
(John Henry Newman)



Jesús no nos dice que nos hagamos enemigos, sino que no tengamos miedo si los hacemos. Una parte importante de nuestra fe es el imperativo de difundirla. Algunos lo hacen compartiendo su fe durante la hora del almuerzo. Otros imparten clases de formación a futuros cristianos. Algunos intentan introducir los valores cristianos en el sistema legal defendiendo los derechos de los pobres, los no nacidos o los inmigrantes. Algunos se convierten en misioneros en países que no aprueban el cristianismo.

Hay muchas maneras de difundir la fe y muchos tipos de santos que se celebran hoy en día. Algunos fueron rechazados por sus familias, otros por sus amigos, otros por el gobierno local o por líderes religiosos. Algunos incluso dieron su vida por su fe.

Quizás hoy sea un buen día para aprender sobre tu santo favorito. ¿Qué hizo especial? ¿Cómo difundió la fe? Quizás podrías hablar sobre los santos con tus hijos. ¿Qué santo comparte nombre con tu hijo? Al conocer a nuestros santos favoritos, sus vidas pueden inspirarnos a enfrentar la persecución o el menosprecio por nuestra fe, o al menos darnos la valentía para hablar de nuestra fe y tal vez cambiar la vida de alguien más. Tom Schmidt

Programa de Educación Religiosa

Grados Pre K-6

Domingos de 9:00 a 10:15am

Grados K-12

Miércoles de 6:00 a 8:00pm

Preguntas/Información

Mayra Donan (863) 453-7537

Orden de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos

Instruye para recibir los sacramentos de iniciación (Bautismo, Confirmación, Eucaristía) y ayuda para profundizar en la Fe. Se reúnen los Domingos en el Edificio Juan Bosco de 9-10:15am. Para información llamar / texto a Florentino 863-840-4533.

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN "SANTISIMA TRINIDAD"

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



GRUPO JUAN XXIII. Se reúne los **Jueves** a las 6:30 PM en el salón San Juan Bosco. Para más información llamar Omar 205-0694 o Elvin 863-443-4351.



Domingo 9 de Noviembre
Salon Parroquial Grogan
11:00AM

15 Taquillas por \$15 y Ganar Rifa de \$100

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

4:00 p.m. + Edward Reilly by Deb & Bert.

7:00 p.m. + Kevin O'Leary by Hermelinda Perez.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26

8:00 a.m. Deb Grant by Randy Rhodes.

10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass – 43rd Wedding Anniversary – Sal & Mina.

MONDAY OCTOBER 27

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 28

8:00 a.m. + John Sedlock by Leon & Anne Watson.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29

8:00 a.m. + Joe Penn by Justine & Paul Devlin.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 30

8:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory – Hermelinda Perez.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 31

8:00 a.m. + Emery David Mattison by Amy Mattison.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1

8:00 a.m. For Our Parish Family.

4:00 p.m. + John Paul Njie by Pauline Njie.

7:00 p.m. + Felix Lopez by Fania Lopez.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Genealogical Society Meeting

Will meet on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the Religious Education Building. All are welcome.

International Food Festival—

November 9, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Grogan Center. Tickets \$15.00 each.

FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Joan Morgan	Candida Reyes	Kathy Furtado
Rosa Arosemena	Andres Clavijo	Jade Jackson
Martha Clavijo	Harold Raccine	Carol Krause
Donna Skelly	Roger Brelinski	Jean Rapp
Rosemary Melinson	Cameron Prosperi	Joan Bender
Deb Perry	Martha Spung	Louise Schorsch
Donald Schorsch	Ed Carrigan	Joey Prescott
Michael Rand	Bea Pedara	Marty Worley
Dale O'Leary	Pat Anhock	Gary Ingalls
Dennis Hood	Susan Beaudoin	Amy Slane
Jeff Babbit	Rose Brault	Waylen James
Raffael Aversa	Jerry Grinkiewicz	Kim Nuccio
Sherry	Jeannie Stopa	Jim Stopa
Marie Burley	Rick Burley	Ron Maslyk
Kathy Reisert	Clay Gooch	Janice Vreeland

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

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

October is Respect Life Month, and the Choices FRC annual fundraising campaign is underway. The Knights of Columbus will be passing our baby bottles after mass beginning October 18th in support of this campaign. You can fill the bottles with coins, bills or checks made out to Knights of Columbus. Please be generous and return the baby bottles by November 30, 2025.

WOMEN'S GUILD MEETING

The Women's Guild meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. Social hour is at 12 noon and the meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Grogan Center.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Will hold a meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the John Boscoe Center. All men are invited.



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

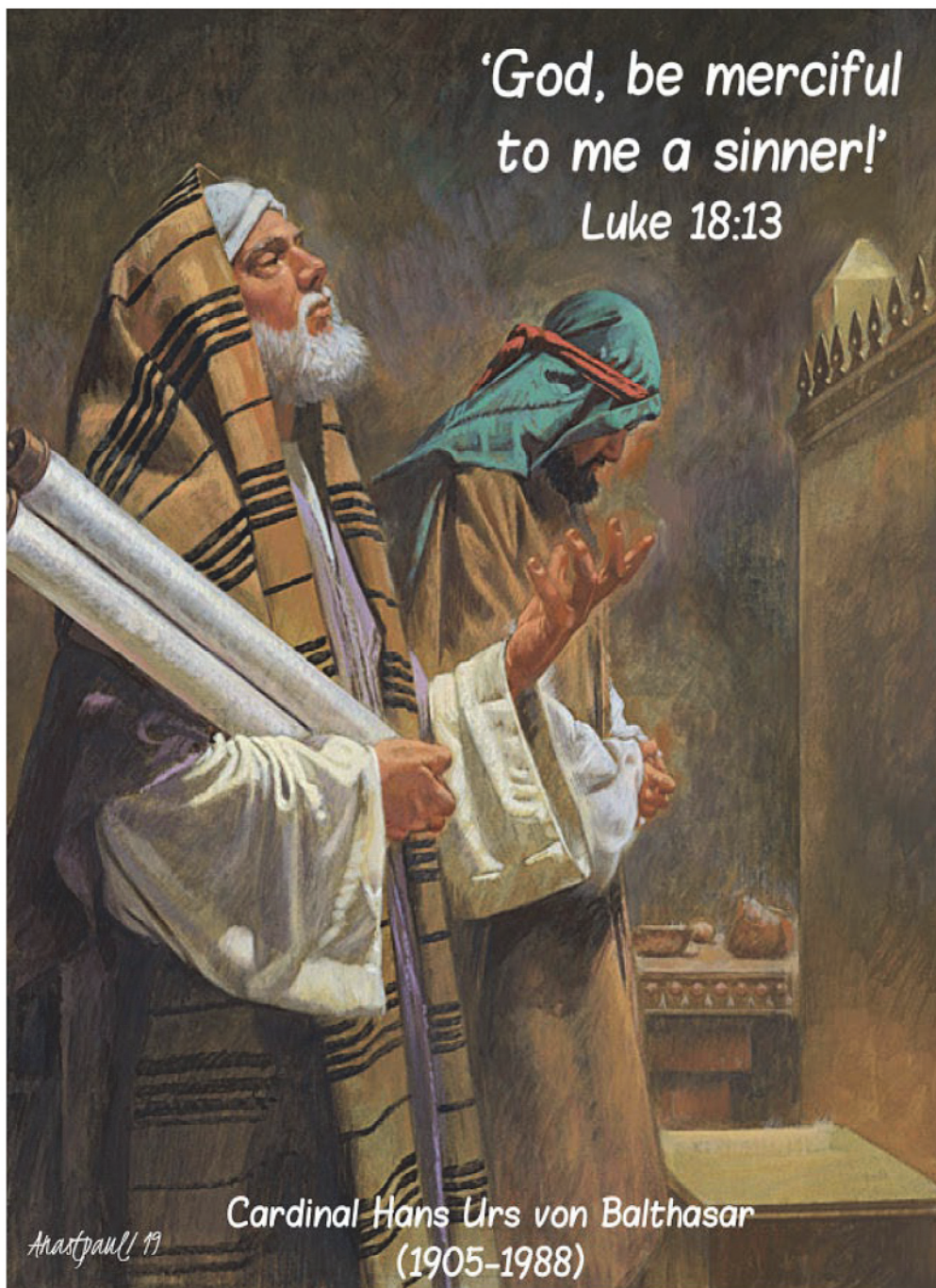
President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



'God, be merciful
to me a sinner!'

Luke 18:13



Anastpaul! 19
Cardinal Hans Urs von Balthasar
(1905-1988)

The first one prays "to himself,"
really, not even praying to God
but reviewing for himself the list of his virtues assuming that,
when God Himself notices them, He will respect them
and marvel at them. ...He is travelling the road of "self-discovery,"
which is precisely the path of "loss of God."
The other man can only discover sin in himself,
can only find himself devoid of God, which, as he pleads,
"be merciful to me," turns into an empty place for God to occupy.
No-one, whose ultimate goal is his own perfection,
will ever find God.



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