

Our Lady of

Grace

Catholic Parish



595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757

Feast of All Souls Day

November 2, 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

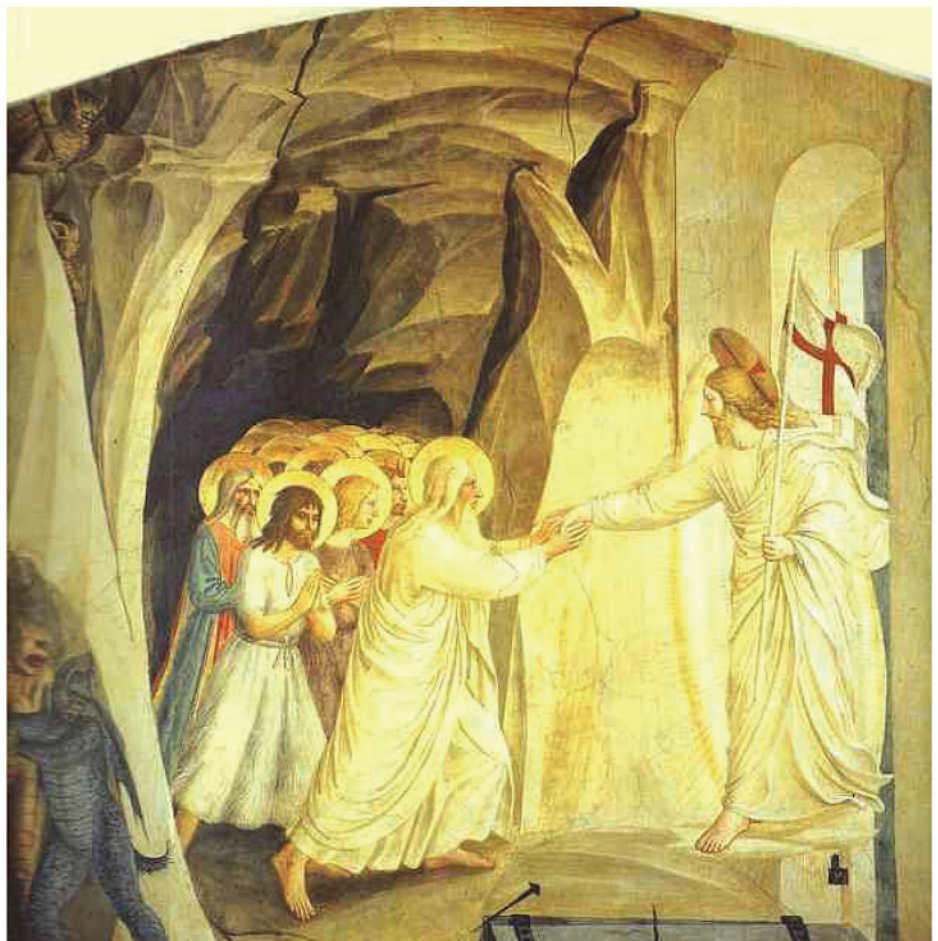
Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday
8 AM

First Friday

Mass and Holy Hour
8 AM

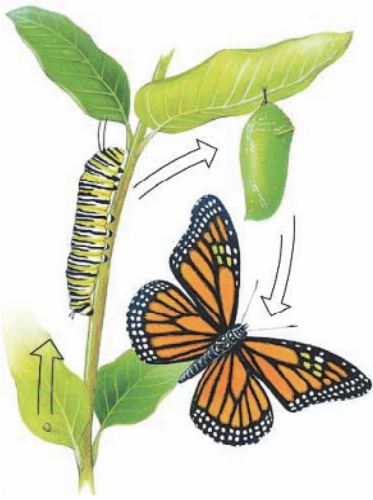
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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

November – Month to pray for the Holy Souls

“It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins.” (2 Macc 12: 45-47).



Feast of All Souls: Pray for deceased loved ones

The Hollywood epic film director **Cecil B. DeMille** tells a story about reading a book while drifting in a canoe on a lake in Maine. For a brief moment he looked away from the book and down toward the lake. There on the water were beetles at play. DeMille watched as one of the beetles crawled up the side of the canoe. As the beetle got half way up, it dug its talons into the wooden side of the canoe and died. DeMille was fascinated by the action of the water beetle. Then, he returned to reading his book. 3 hours later he took another timeout from reading. He looked back to where the beetle attached its talons to the side of the canoe and was amazed at what he saw.

The beetle had dried up and its back had begun to crack open.

The closer he watched; he noticed that there was some movement: something was trying to force its way out through the crack in the shell which coated the back of the dead beetle. First a small moist head appeared followed closely by rainbow-colored wings. **Finally, a beautiful butterfly emerged with resplendent colors.** DeMille sat there amazed at the epiphany unfolding. The mini-creature began to move its oversized wings. It took flight and hovered over the water where the other beetles were at play. None of the beetles recognized the butterfly. They did not realize that it was the same beetle they played with just hours earlier. DeMille took his finger and moved the dried-out shell of the beetle. It looked like an empty tomb.

Image, metaphor, is a door, a window, into mystery. There are similarities between the story of the beetle and the death and resurrection of Jesus. The water beetle died fastened to a wooden canoe. Jesus died nailed to a wooden cross. The water beetle went through an amazing transformation three hours after its death. Jesus also underwent an amazing transformation three days after his death. The water beetles did not recognize the transformed beetle as it flew over the water where it had played three hours before. In the Gospels we are told that Jesus, after his Resurrection, was not recognized by those who had been with him three days before.



Belief in the Resurrection sustains a mother and her 7 sons in the face of torture in the book of Maccabees. It is in **2 Maccabees 12: 45-47** we pray: ***"It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins."*** This Scripture passage is the source of prayer for the dead. In Eucharistic Prayer II at Mass, we are called in a special way ***"to remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again..."***

Pick up envelopes on tables at Church exits or in the Parish office and list the names of deceased family members and loved ones. Those envelopes with the names of loved ones listed will be placed on the altar and prayed for during November. **Sunday, Nov 2, is the Feast of the Holy Souls and all Masses will be offered in Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day).**

Vocations Awareness Week**November 2 - 8**

John Henry Newman, who was declared a Saint by Pope Francis, was born into a prominent family in London, England, in 1801. His family did not practice any faith or religion. At the age of 15, when a high school student in Ealing, he experienced for the first time in his life a “Call” – Vocation – to follow Christ in an Evangelical Church. He later transferred to an Anglican Church and, finally ended up becoming a Roman Catholic at the age of forty in 1841. He felt called to the Catholic Priesthood and was ordained a priest in Rome in the late 1840’s. He wrote a prayer for young people who are searching for their vocation. You have an excerpt from that prayer below. Newman died in 1891. He was declared a saint in 2019 and, recently, a Doctor of the Church.



“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)**



“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, Nov 29/30th. Thanks, and, may God bless you.



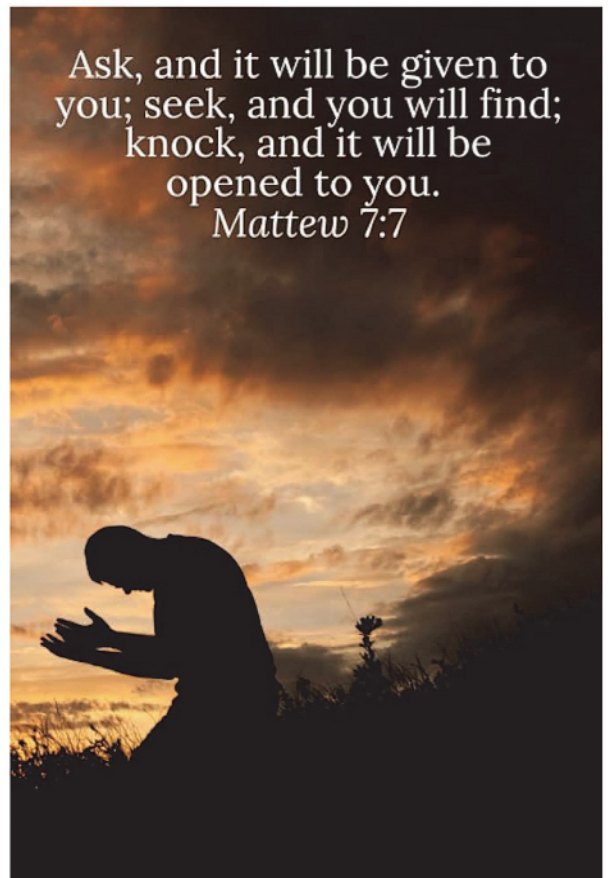
Church Service Food Collection, Sunday, Nov 2

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.



Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.
Matthew 7:7



Help a searcher to find life's purpose

*Invite a family member, friend, or, a workmate, to attend the **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)**, on Monday evenings, at 7 P.M. in the Religious Education Bldg. Or, better, come with them to the session.*

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults - OCIA – Is an introduction and overview of what Catholics believe and practice and, is offered to adults who are seeking & searching for purpose & meaning in their lives.

In offering an introduction and overview of what Catholics believe and practice, it also affords the seeker and searcher to ask their own unique questions, which are unique to their search and, in doing so, enrich the search of others attending the session.



Uno de los aspectos más hermosos de la fe Católica es la **Comunión** de los Santos. Ya sea la Iglesia Militante que aún lucha la buena batalla aquí en la tierra, la Iglesia Purgante que soporta su último tiempo de purificación en el Purgatorio, o la Iglesia Triunfante que se regocija con nuestro Señor en el cielo, todos estamos unidos en la fe. Somos una sola Iglesia, unida en los misterios de la pasión, muerte y resurrección de nuestro Señor.

Lo que hace esta realidad tan hermosa es nuestra capacidad de orar unos por otros, sin importar el estado de vida en que nos encontremos. Quienes están en la tierra pueden orar para acortar el tiempo en el Purgatorio de uno de sus hermanos, y quienes están en el Purgatorio pueden ofrecer sus sufrimientos por quienes están en la tierra. Quienes están en la Iglesia Triunfante pueden orar tanto por quienes están en la Militante como por quienes están en el Purgatorio. Es un círculo increíble de amor y compasión que no terminará hasta que Cristo vuelva.

Hoy celebramos el **Día de los Fieles Difuntos**. Es un día para orar por “quienes nos han precedido, marcados con el signo de la fe”, a todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas difuntos que fueron bautizados en el nombre del Padre, del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo. Dado que nuestras almas deben ser completamente purificadas antes de entrar al banquete celestial, muchos de nosotros tendremos que pasar por este tiempo de purificación. A otros se les permitirá pasar por grandes dificultades aquí en la tierra y ser purificados a través de ellas, con la ayuda de los sacramentos. Nos preguntemos por qué nuestro sobrino tuvo ese accidente de carro o por qué nuestro hijo tuvo que soportar las secuelas de una apendicitis reventada. Pero todas estas pruebas, **cuando se viven con fe**, pueden ser oportunidades de purificación para nosotros y para los demás. “Ofrécelo” ya no es un cliché, sino un recordatorio para dirigir nuestra mente y corazón a Dios en momentos de dificultad.

Oremos hoy por todas las almas del purgatorio, para que un día podamos unirnos con ellas como Iglesia Triunfante. ___ Tom Schmidt

**DALES
SEÑOR**

Programa de Educación Religiosa

Grados PreK-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

GRUPO DE ORACIÓN “SANTISIMA TRINIDAD” Se reúne los **Jueves** a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia. Rosario a las 6:30pm. Para más información llamar Hortencia 863-448-6869 o Adela 863-528-8267.

Diócesis de Venice PROGRAMA DE FORMACIÓN

Clase 3

Iglesia San Pablo, Arcadia

Viernes, Noviembre 14

7:00 - 9:00pm

Información/Preguntas

Perla Barajas 863-990-8010

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.



Festival Internacional
De Comida

DOMINGO, NOVIEMBRE 9

11:00 AM

SALON PARROQUIAL GROGAN

\$15 TAQUILLAS Y RIFA de \$100

MASS INTENTIONS**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.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. + Jose Rodriguez by Jose & Zoraida Rodriguez.
 + Lynne Myers by Elrie Myers.
 10:30 a.m. + Faride Sarmiento by Family.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 3

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4

8:00 a.m. + Frank S. Torok by Jeffrey Kindeler.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5

8:00 a.m. + Peter Viviano by Justine Devlin.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6

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

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 7

8:00 a.m. + Joan, Neal & Tim Roche by Family.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8

8:00 a.m. For Our Parish Family.
 4:00 p.m. + Lenny Lamka by Wife.
 7:00 p.m. + Humberto Ramirez by Ofelia Ramirez.

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 out 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, November 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the John Boscoe Center. All men are invited.



Staff & Ministries

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Knights of Columbus

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Grand Knight
863-414-5002

Women's Guild

Debora Augusta
President
(863)991-1020

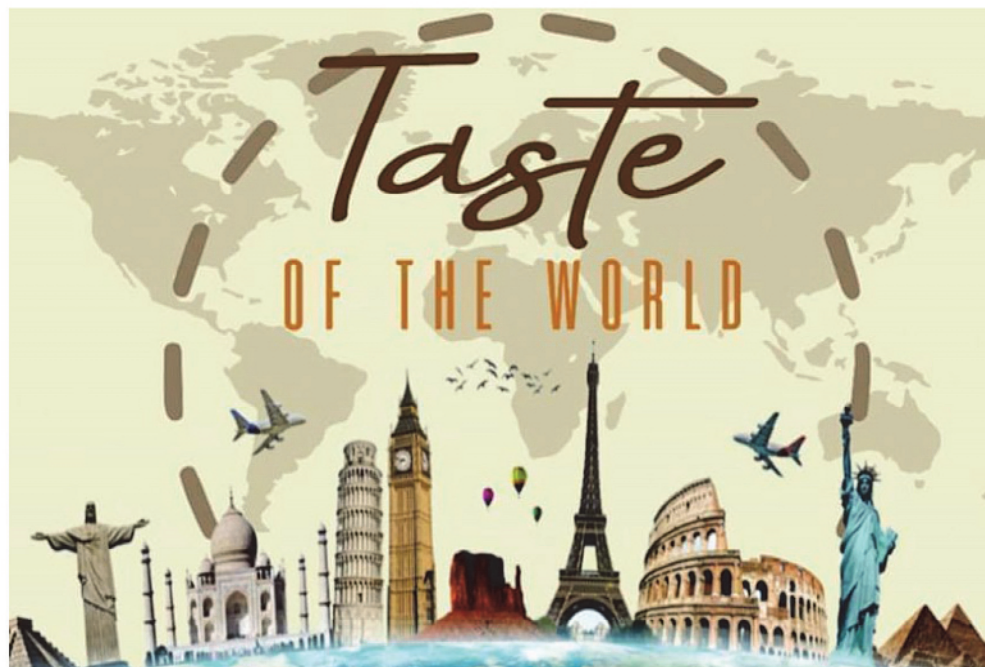
OCIA Director

Travis & Dawn Crosson
(863)453-4757

Parish Council

President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



OLG International Food Festival



Sunday, November 9th

Grogan Center: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Come and taste exquisite cuisines
from many countries.**

And, get to know fellow parishioners





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