

Our Lady of Grace

Catholic Parish



595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757

Feast of St. John Lateran

November 9, 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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Basilica of St. John Lateran – November 9th

Most Catholics think of St. Peter's as the pope's main church, but they are wrong. **Saint John Lateran is the pope's church**, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome where the Bishop of Rome presides.

The first basilica on the site was built in the 4th century when Constantine donated land he had received from the wealthy Lateran family. That structure and its successors suffered fire, earthquake, and the ravages of war, but the Lateran remained the church where popes were consecrated. **In the 14th century when the papacy returned to Rome from Avignon, the church and adjoining palace were found to be in ruins.**

Pope Innocent X commissioned the present structure in **1646**. One of Rome's most imposing churches, the Lateran's towering facade is crowned with 15 colossal statues of Christ, **John the Baptist**, **John the Evangelist**, and 12 doctors of the Church. Beneath its high altar rest the remains of the small wooden table on which **St Peter** celebrated Mass.

I Beg You to See Christ in Every Person, Even Those Whose Politics You Oppose,” says Archbishop Broglio, President of USCCB, Issuing a Pastoral Invitation for Reflection

On the 5th anniversary of *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis’ encyclical letter on fraternity and social friendship, Archbishop Broglio has issued an invitation encouraging every American to reflect on the value of every human life and to see Christ in every person, including in those who hold differing thoughts.

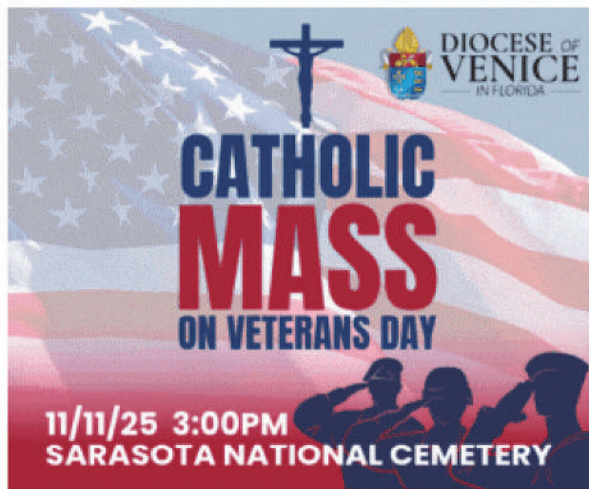
“Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth.”

As shepherd to our nation’s uniformed service members and their families, I have known the pain that the violence of war inflicts on men and women and those closest to them. Trained military chaplains work tirelessly to help servicemembers and families heal from the wounds of war. This ministry has changed my life forever. Today, grievous acts of violence have intruded into the daily lives of too many Americans—an experience that, tragically, many civilians around the world have long endured. Places once regarded as safe harbors to grow and learn—our schools, universities, and churches—have become sites of heartbreaking tragedy and bloodshed.

Five years ago, in his encyclical *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis outlined steps our world must take to rebuild a sense of communion in the wake of what he described as “shattered dreams.” As the encyclical prophetically points out, **people are being manipulated “to serve as tools for domination, as meaningless tags that can be used to justify any action.”** We have seen the manifestation of this notion in the perverse idea that one can serve the common good by becoming an instrument of violence. **This happens when we refuse to see the face of Christ in the other person and only see an enemy that must be dominated or destroyed.** Tragically, decent people of every political persuasion continue to fall victim to this deadly trend. **Too much of everyday life is strained by hostility and division,** which has resulted in shocking acts of political violence.

The wisdom Pope Francis offers reminds us that “authentic reconciliation does not flee from conflict, but is achieved *in* conflict, resolving it through dialogue and open, honest and patient negotiation.” “The path to social unity,” he stresses, “always entails acknowledging the possibility that others have, at least in part, a legitimate point of view, something worthwhile to contribute, even if they were in error or acted badly.” Building peace in our nation “requires us to place at the center of all political, social, and economic activity the human person from conception to natural death, who enjoys the highest dignity, and respect for the common good.”

I ask every American to reflect on the value of every human life. **I beg you to see Christ in every person, even those whose politics you oppose.** Each of us should examine our hearts, our thoughts, and our actions and ask ourselves how we contribute to the polarization and animosity plaguing our nation. We should also put into practice those behaviors that can help us begin to heal the rifts between us. Consider performing a corporal work of mercy—feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Consider fasting from social media for one day a week or in the evening. Pray for your enemies. Listen and talk with those you with whom you disagree—especially within your own family. Disagree, debate civilly, stand for your rights, but always remember in your heart that we are all children of God and deserve dignity and life.



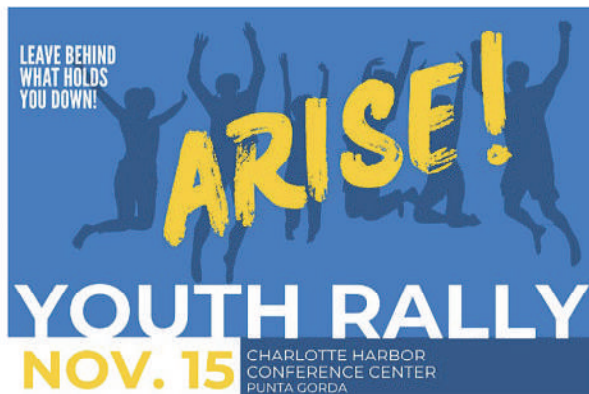
Catholic Mass on Veterans Day – November 11

A Catholic Mass on Veterans Day, **Tuesday, November 11**, will be held in the **Amphitheater at Sarasota National Cemetery at 3:00 pm.**

All are welcome to attend and join in prayer for the souls of our faithfully departed veterans as well as for those currently in the military, and all who labor to protect the freedom we enjoy.

If you are a member of the military, come, and wear your uniform!

Opening ceremonies begin at 2:45 p.m.



Arise! Youth Rally - Calling all high school students! Join thousands of young

Catholics from the Diocese of Venice for a day of prayer, faith, and fun!

This year's Youth Rally theme, "Arise", is a call to rise with determination to serve Christ in His Church. It is a concrete response to the call of the Jubilee Year of Hope: It is Jesus Christ Who is our Hope!

For students in grades 9 – 12. Students and parents, to register please inquire within your Parish or Catholic School! School & Religious Education Leaders & Parish Staff,

For more information, or with questions, please **contact Andres Prias, Director, Youth & Young Adult Outreach, 941-441-1122, prias@dioceseofvenice.org**



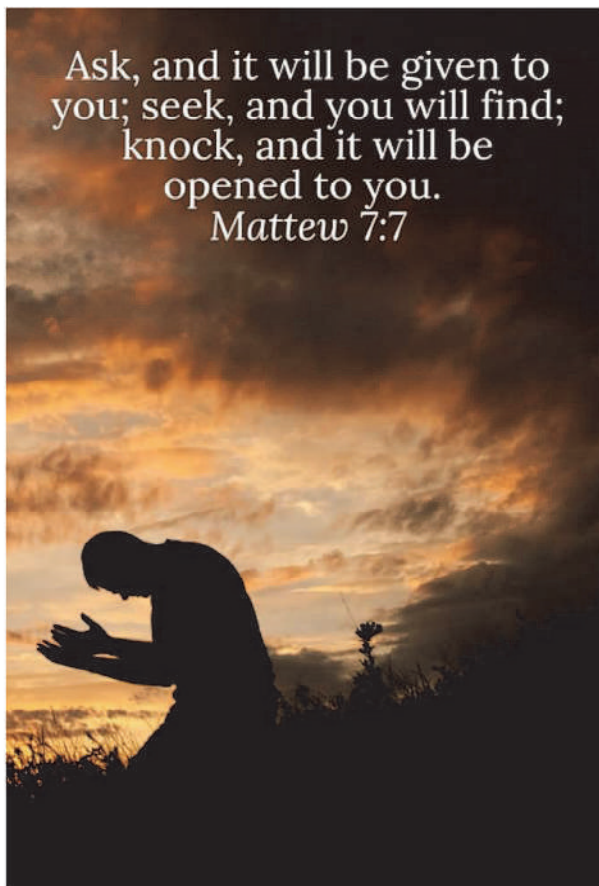
Vocation Awareness Weekend November 14 - 16

Discover what the seminarian life is all about during the weekend of November 14-16 at

St. John Vianney College Seminary, 2900 SW 87th Ave, Miami.

Participants will travel together for a weekend of fellowship, prayer and fun. Speak with seminarian students and teachers about their journey.

Transportation is provided. For questions or to register contact Lina Johnson at johnson@dioceseofvenice.org or 941-486-4720.



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.



The Knights of Columbus Meetings & Special Events

The Knights of Columbus meet on the **2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M.** in the Youth Center.

The K of C have a Social Meeting with a Pot-Luck-Supper on the **4th Tuesday of every month at 6:00 P.M.** in the Grogan Center. All are welcome.



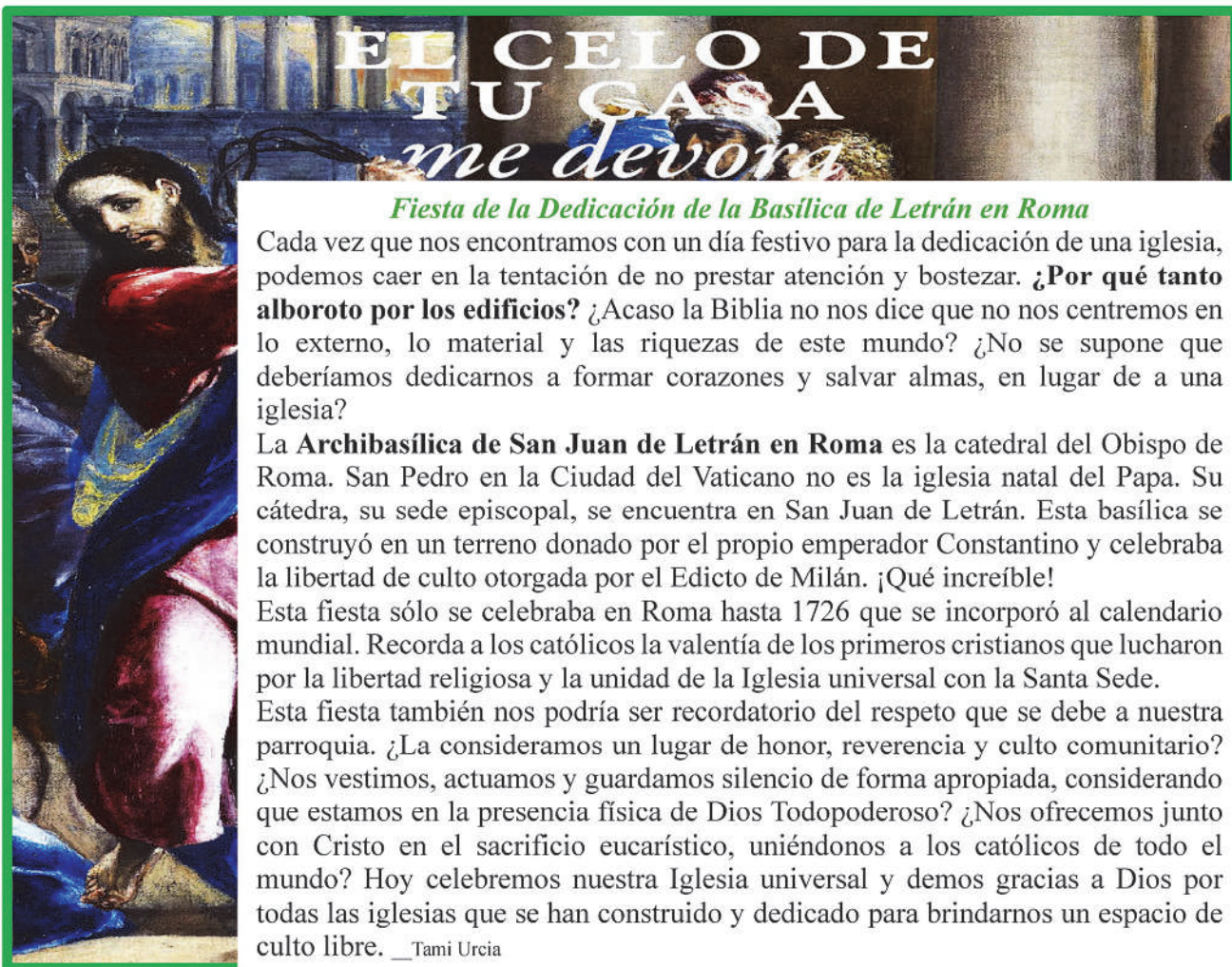
OLG Ladies Guild Meeting Dates for 2025/2026

OLG Ladies monthly meetings are held on the **Second Wednesday of the month.**

Meetings will be held in the Grogan Center.

Social hour at noon is prior to our 1 pm meeting. **The Social hour** is an opportunity for new or returning members to get to know one another before the **general business meeting at 1:00 P.M.** Enjoy an afternoon of community and fellowship.

The 1st event will be the **International Food Festival, Sunday, November 9, 11 A.M. – 2 P.M.**



Fiesta de la Dedicación de la Basílica de Letrán en Roma

Cada vez que nos encontramos con un día festivo para la dedicación de una iglesia, podemos caer en la tentación de no prestar atención y bostezar. **¿Por qué tanto alboroto por los edificios?** ¿Acaso la Biblia no nos dice que no nos centremos en lo externo, lo material y las riquezas de este mundo? ¿No se supone que deberíamos dedicarnos a formar corazones y salvar almas, en lugar de a una iglesia?

La **Archibasilica de San Juan de Letrán en Roma** es la catedral del Obispo de Roma. San Pedro en la Ciudad del Vaticano no es la iglesia natal del Papa. Su cátedra, su sede episcopal, se encuentra en San Juan de Letrán. Esta basílica se construyó en un terreno donado por el propio emperador Constantino y celebraba la libertad de culto otorgada por el Edicto de Milán. ¡Qué increíble!

Esta fiesta sólo se celebraba en Roma hasta 1726 que se incorporó al calendario mundial. Recordamos a los católicos la valentía de los primeros cristianos que lucharon por la libertad religiosa y la unidad de la Iglesia universal con la Santa Sede.

Esta fiesta también nos podría ser recordatorio del respeto que se debe a nuestra parroquia. ¿La consideramos un lugar de honor, reverencia y culto comunitario? ¿Nos vestimos, actuamos y guardamos silencio de forma apropiada, considerando que estamos en la presencia física de Dios Todopoderoso? ¿Nos ofrecemos junto con Cristo en el sacrificio eucarístico, uniéndonos a los católicos de todo el mundo? Hoy celebremos nuestra Iglesia universal y demos gracias a Dios por todas las iglesias que se han construido y dedicado para brindarnos un espacio de culto libre. __Tami Urcia

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

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 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.

GRUPO JUAN XXIII

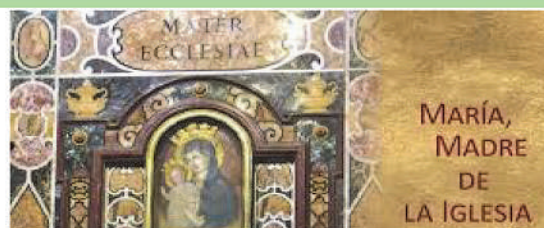
Se reúne los **Jueves** a las 6:30 PM en el salón San Juan Bosco. Para más información llamar Omar 205-0694 o Elvin 863-443-4351.

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**Festival Internacional
De Comida**



MASS INTENTIONS**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.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9

8:00 a.m. Richard & Annie
 Worthington by Dad & Mom.
 + Lynne & Jerry Myers by
 Elrie Myers.
 10:30 a.m. + Jerry Myers by Chuck
 Kilgore.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 11

9:00 a.m. Birthday - Paul Devlin by
 Justine Devlin.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12

8:00 a.m. + Thanksgiving Mass – Texin
 Vellapally in Heaven by Sal
 & Mina.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13

8:00 a.m. + William & Virginia Cook
 by Evelyn Seely.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14

8:00 a.m. + Marjorie Ruckert by Francis
 Ruckert.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15

8:00 a.m. For Our Parish Family.
 4:00 p.m. + William Cook by Evelyn
 Seely.
 7:00 p.m. + Esperansa Garcia by Felipe
 Garcia Family.

CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

Our Goal is \$122,000.00. To date
 the amount we've received is
 \$83,709.46. Our balance remaining
 is \$38,290.54.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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	Sharon Ingalls	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

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

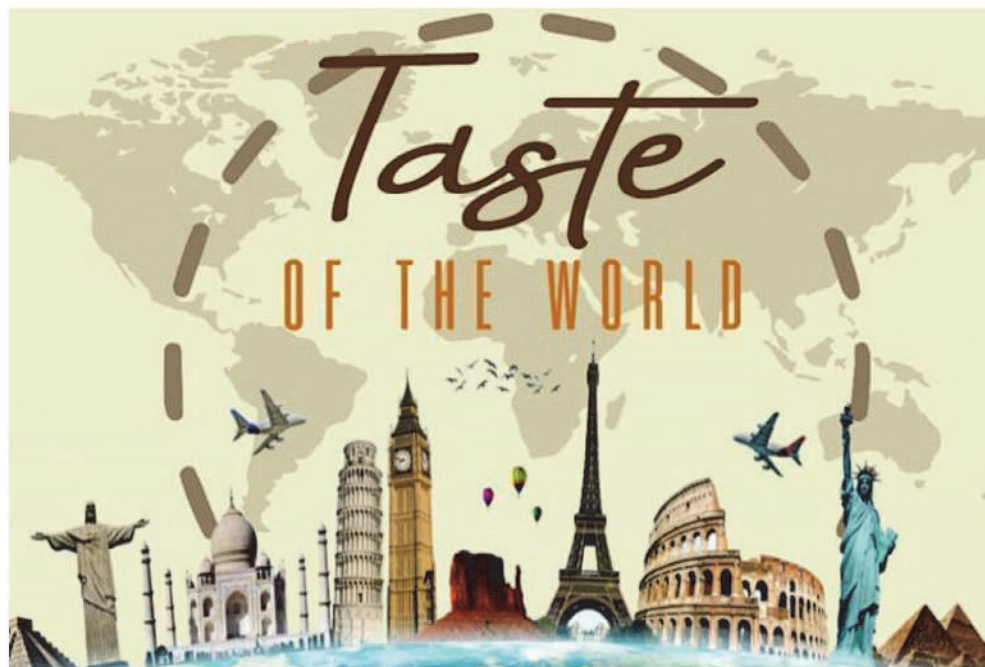
OCIA Director

Travis & Dawn Crosson
(863)453-4757

Parish Council

President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



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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