

# Our Lady of Grace



Catholic Parish

595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757



18th Sunday Ordinary Time

August 3, 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

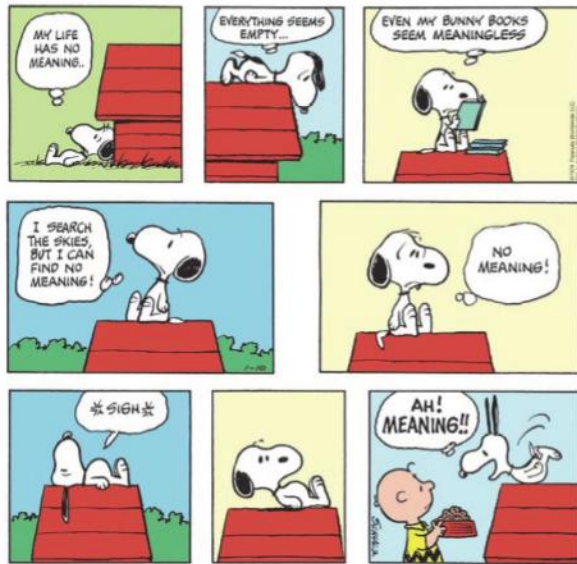
Mass and Holy Hour  
8 AM

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Rembrandt

*There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest." What do I do with it?" Jesus makes a distinction between "need" & "Greed:" the difference between "means" & "meaning."*



**“Need V Greed,” “Means V Meaning”** There was an insightful **Charles Schultz cartoon** in a local newspaper some years ago. In it, you see **Snoopy** sitting outside his kennel looking very ‘**down.**’ His ears are down, his eyes are sad and his face is glum. In another cartoon frame, you see Snoopy spring to his feet; his ears perk up, his eyes gleam with joy and his face radiates satisfaction. The reason; Charlie Brown approaches with a bowl of dog food and **Snoopy lets out a scream, “Ah meaning!”**

You have an example of what Schultz refers to in **the parable in today’s Gospel, in which a farmer, like Snoopy, mistakes *means* for *meaning*.** The

Gospel begins with someone in the crowd approaching Jesus with a rather peculiar request: *“Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.”* You have one more example of the adage, **“Where there’s a will, there’s a relative.”** Jesus refuses to get involved in a family dispute. Instead, he focuses on the **cause of the dispute – greed over need.** Jesus uses a parable to illustrate his answer. It is a story about a rich man who became rich because he worked very hard and reaped a bountiful harvest. He wondered what he would do with his excess wealth. Luke gives his answer

*“I will tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, ‘Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink and be merry.’”*

His answer reminds us of a similar answer given by **John D. Rockefeller** when he was asked, **“How much money is enough?”** His response, was **“Just a little bit more.”**

Some years ago, “greed not need,” caused a downturn in the economy on Wall Street & Main Street, & a downward spiral in the U.S. economy & economies in many parts of the Western World, which, in turn, impacted people’s lives, leading to loss of jobs and foreclosures on homes.

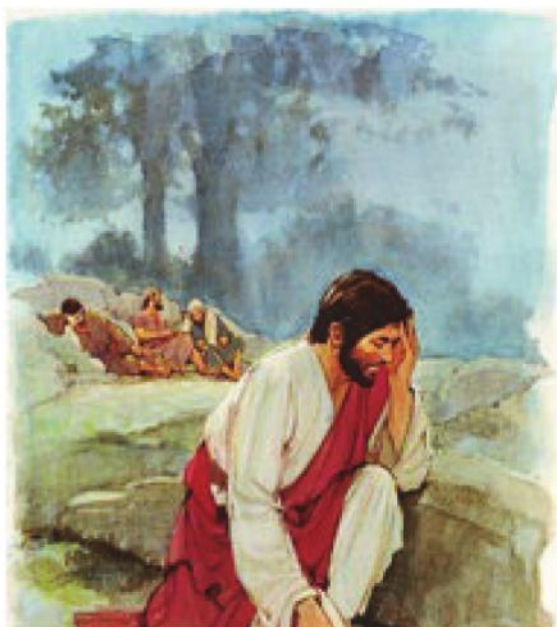
**What does Jesus say in today’s Gospel?** *“You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; & the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?”* Then, Jesus concludes, *“Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”*

Today’s Gospel does not take the rich man to task because of his possessions which he earned because of hard work and ingenuity; what Jesus takes to task in today’s Gospel is **his attitude of greed over need.** We oftentimes make the same mistake as Snoopy in today’s cartoon – we fail to distinguish between **means** and **meaning.** Money affords means to provide for the necessities of life. It cannot give your life meaning. **The simple teaching in Charles Schultz cartoon** and in Jesus’ parable in today’s Gospel is: **a standard of life** is far more important than **a standard of living.** The parable poses the question: What is important to you? **Where do your values lie?**



**Friday, August 1st, First Friday**

Friday, August 1st, 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 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>**

We thank Parishioners for bringing non-perishable food to Church today, August 2/3, 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.

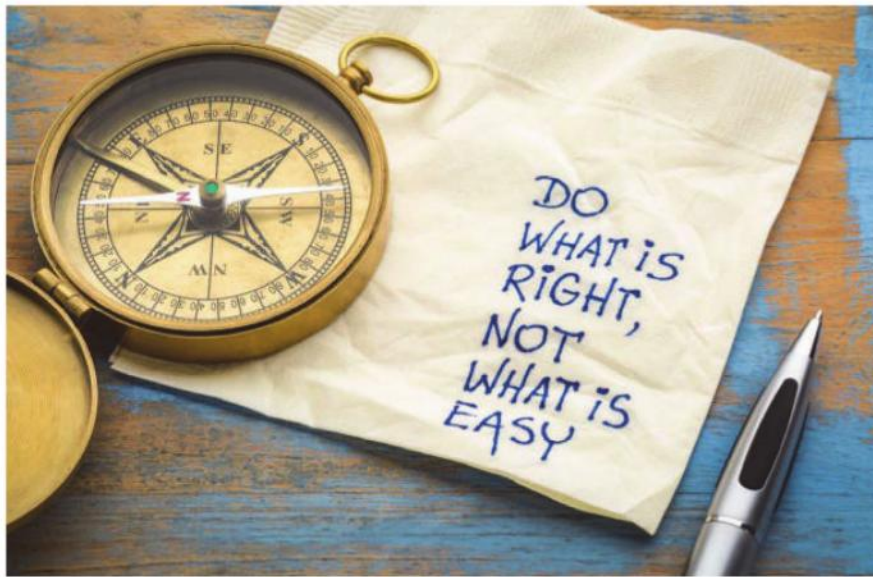
We will also take a second collection at all masses this weekend to assist those who come to the CSC soliciting help with water and electric bills and with rent payments.

**First Saturday Mass, August 2, 8a.m.**

There will be an 8 a.m. mass on the First Saturday, August 2nd. 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 Licenski, Mary Ann Bland, William & MaryAnn Patterson.





### Parents: Give your children a Moral Compass

Every day, our kids face any number of moral dilemmas. 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.

As parents, we want to raise our children to make moral choices that will lead them toward honorable, successful lives. Can we help them build a moral compass that gives them a sense of direction when faced with life's difficult decisions?

Fighter pilots sometimes experience a phenomenon known as vertigo. When this happens, a pilot can become disoriented as to how fast and high he is going. If he relies on his sensations or memory, he may lose control of the aircraft. But one thing will not lie to the pilot—his instruments. His instruments help him determine his orientation and speed so he can safely control the plane.

I like using this example with young people because it illustrates two key components of truth and morality: First, when we're confused about what to do, a standard does exist, something that helps us recognize up from down, right from wrong. Second, that moral standard is necessarily outside our own feelings and intuition. The very concept of morality means that the standard of truth comes from a higher authority—beyond just the rules or habits of our culture.

Put another way, trying to live a moral life on our own is . . . well, impossible. But God never intended anyone to be on his or her own. When we trust in Him, He provides the guidance and support to walk in accordance with His plan. In moments of confusion, God provides us with an "instrument panel."

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. If you love your children, give them a moral compass. **Call Myara, 453-7537.**



# Decimotavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

**“Eviten toda clase de avaricia, porque la vida del hombre no depende de la abundancia de los bienes que posea”.**



Las lecturas nos advierten que las riquezas materiales serán inútiles al morir. La riqueza puede ser un regalo de Dios. El abuso de ella no existe necesariamente en poseerla. ¿Trabajo un día completo para ganar mi sueldo o dedico mucho tiempo a visitar a otros empleados o enviar mensajes a mis amigos? ¿Soy honesto con mis clientes, cobrando solo por el trabajo realizado? En cuanto al uso de la riqueza ¿consentimos a nuestros hijos para que puedan tener las cosas que yo no podía tener de joven? ¿O les enseñamos a trabajar por lo que obtienen? ¿Enseñamos a nuestros hijos a ser generosos con los demás? En el bautismo, damos término a la *pasión* y la *avaricia*, tendencias que nos impulsan a poseer más o controlar a otra persona. Pablo utiliza la imagen de despojarse de estos vicios como si fueran ropas y revestirse de un nuevo ser que demuestra a Cristo dentro de nosotros y a ver a Cristo en los demás. --Tom Schmidt

**¡Búsquelo! Pregunte. En oración, haga su decisión y comparte tu TESORO. ¡Gracias!**

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**LLAMADA DE FE CATÓLICA**

La Campaña de Fe Católica (CFC) es una oportunidad anual para que cada miembro de la comunidad de fe de la Diócesis de Venecia aporte su programa y ministerio que cambian vidas. Los donaciones (\$10 a la CFC) financian ministerios esenciales que benefician a todas las parroquias, familias y escuelas católicas del suroeste de Florida. Además, la CFC brinda apoyo a seminarios y sacerdotado público, atención médica y de vivienda para personas necesitadas, programas de fe para niños y adultos, y programas de extensión a través de Católicos Católicos, Diócesis de Venecia.

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**Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**  
595 E Main St Avon Park 33825

## Programa de Educación Religiosa

Nuestro Programa de Educación Religiosa es para estudiantes K-12 y después de confirmación

- El programa de Primera comunión es de 2 años, comenzando en primer Grado.
- Las confirmaciones son dos años para estudiantes de 9 a 12 grado
- Ofrecemos un programa estudio Bíblico para estudiantes que han completado su confirmación, y quieren seguir formándose en su fe.
- El grupo de jóvenes adultos es para jóvenes de 18-25 años
- Las clases para grados K-8to son los Domingos de 9am-10:15am
- Para grados 9-12 las clases son los Miércoles de 6:00pm-8:00pm



### Cuota de inscripción:

Julio-\$35 por niño/ \$60 por familias 3+  
Agosto-\$45 por niño/ \$80 por familias 3+  
Sept. - \$60 por niño/ \$120 por familias 3+

### Inscríbete ahora

La oficina está abierta  
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Lunes a Viernes



### Para más información

Mayra.donan@ologap.org  
(863) 453-7537  
(863) 214-3025



## GRUPO DE ORACIÓN “SANTISIMA TRINIDAD”

Se reúne los jueves a las 7:00pm en la Iglesia. Todos invitados para hacer el Rosario en Comunidad a las 6:30pm. Para más información llamar Hortencia 863-448-6869 o Adela 863-528-8267.

## GRUPO JUAN XXIII

El grupo parroquial de Juan XXIII se reúne los Jueves a las 6:30 PM en el salón San Juan Bosco.

Todos están invitados para conocer más El Amor de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Con Cristo Todo. Sin Cristo Nada. Para más información llamar Omar 863-205-0694 o Carmen 863-443-4351.



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 2**

4:00 p.m. + Peter & Ann Prentice by Evelyn Seely.  
7:00 p.m. Iluminado Rodriguez Munoz by Mojica Rodriguez Family.

**SUNDAY AUGUST 3**

8:00 a.m. + Jerry Myers by Judy Pounds.  
10:30 a.m. Jerry Grinkiewicz by JoMarie Grinkiewicz.

**MONDAY AUGUST 4**

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

**TUESDAY AUGUST 5**

8:00 a.m. + Fr. Sean Mulcahey by Nola Schmidt.

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6**

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

**THURSDAY AUGUST 7**

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

**FRIDAY AUGUST 8**

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

**SATURDAY AUGUST 9**

4:00 p.m. + Glen Hartsfield by Wife.  
7:00 p.m. + Juanito Ocasio Melendez by Diana Ocasio & Family.

**TO ALL PARISHIONERS:**

Now that Fr. Ronnie has instituted the receiving of the Precious Blood, please note that there is no dipping of the Host into the cup containing the Precious Blood! The reason for this is to prevent any spills or dripping that may occur, also to avoid any contamination. Please just sip from the cup.

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, please call or text Deb Grant 307-220-0308 Lead EM and Trainer and training will be provided.

**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

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

## 2nd Collection

There will be a Second Collection after all masses for the Church Service Center.

**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.





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## Staff & Ministries

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### Administrative Assistant

Evelyn Barcinas  
Evelyn.Barcinas@ologap.org

### Bookkeeper

Linda Beman  
linda.beman@ologap.org

### Maintenance

Maria Ramirez

### 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

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## Parish Council

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### President

Betty Anne Lee



## “Need V Greed:” “Means V Meaning.”

Today's Gospel (Luke 13: 13 – 21) does not take the rich man to task because of his possessions which he earned because of hard work and ingenuity; what Jesus takes to task in today's Gospel is **his attitude of “greed over need.”**

**We oftentimes make the same mistake as Snoopy in today's cartoon – we fail to distinguish between “means” and “meaning.”**

**Money affords means to provide for the necessities of life. It cannot give your life meaning.**

**The simple teaching in Charles Schultz cartoon and in Jesus' parable in today's Gospel is: a standard of life is far more important than a standard of living.**

The cartoon and the parable pose the question: What is important to you?  
**Where do your values lie?**



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