

Our Lady of

Grace
Catholic Parish



595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757

Corpus Christi Sunday

June 7 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

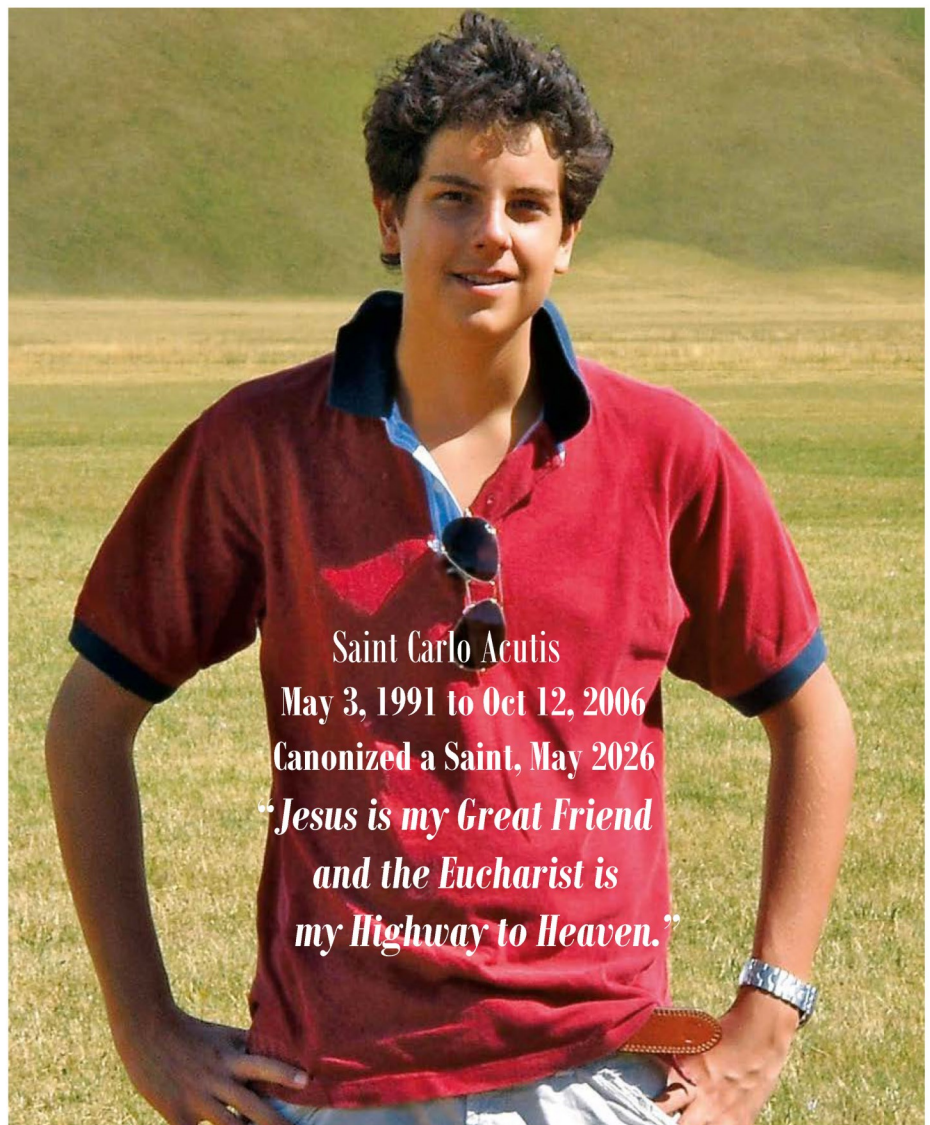
Daily Mass

Tuesday-Friday
8 AM

First Friday

Mass and Holy Hour
8 AM

Visit us on the web!
www.ologap.org



Saint Carlo Acutis

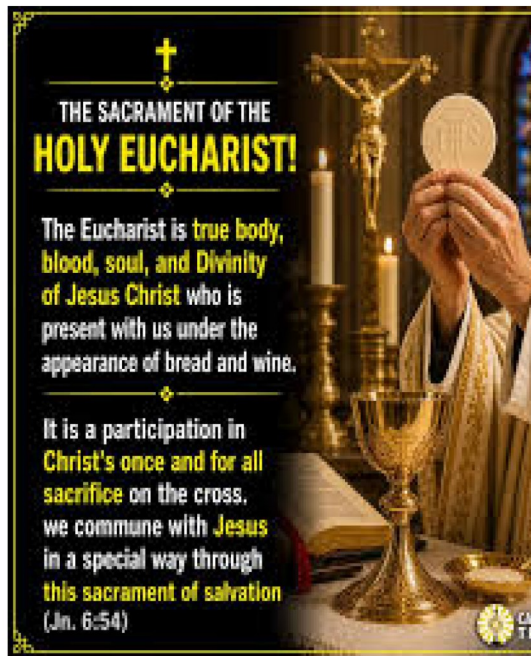
May 3, 1991 to Oct 12, 2006

Canonized a Saint, May 2026

*“Jesus is my Great Friend
and the Eucharist is
my Highway to Heaven.”*

The Feast of Corpus Christi

“Faith will tell us Christ is present when the human senses fail.”



Feast of Corpus Christi: Jesus gives us food for the journey

Moses, in today's 1st reading from the **Book of Deuteronomy**, is on the threshold of the Promised Land, having led God's people over 40-years through the desert, from slavery in Egypt through the desert to freedom on the verge of the Promised Land. He reminds them of how he took care of them on that journey from slavery to freedom; providing **manna** in the desert and **water** from the Rock at Meribah to sustain them on their journey.

Life is frequently described as a journey. For many people, life is a journey **from some form of personal slavery to freedom.** We are an addictive culture today – addicted to technology, to drink, to drugs, to sex, to power... you name it, we have a tendency to addiction. **Through programs like the 12 step programs,** we, like Moses leading the people from slavery to freedom, are led from addiction to freedom. On these journeys, **it is important to have leaders** – like Moses, like sponsors & recovered AA/NA members– **in 12 step programs.**

There is a story about a poor Italian family that was forced to emigrate from a small village in the South of Italy. Their friends gave a farewell party for them before they set sail for their trip to New York. They gave them practical gifts for the voyage – bread, cheese and wine. Being a poor family, they could only afford the cheapest cabin in the lowest deck of the ship. Those who saw the '*Titanic*' could envisage their plight on board ship. The ship set sail: the emigrant family stayed pretty much to themselves in their cramped quarters for the duration of the trip, eating the coarse bread and hard cheese before washing it down with the wine. After about a week at sea, the oldest son, restless, left the cabin, explored the upper deck and found an eloquent dining room.

Missing for a few hours, his father went in search of him. His heart sank when he saw his son 'stuffing his face' in one of the elegant dining rooms. How was he going to pay for his son's extravagance when all he had was a few dollars. His son beckoned to him to join him. The father was just about to 'read-the-riot-act,' when his son reassured him, **"the food is included in the price of the ticket."** The father was so frustrated, when he realized he & his family were eating junk food, when they could have eaten 'mouth-watering' food for the entire journey.

As mentioned earlier, **Life is often described as a journey.** So often, so many - Christians among them - settle for the '**junk-food**' served up by movies, TV, 'chat-rooms', iPods, cell phones and the like, and fail to feed their children with Jesus, the **"Bread-of-Life"**, as they make their journey through life. We hear Jesus say at the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, **"I do not call you servants, I call you friends."** That friendship is sustained around the table of the Eucharist. The word **"Companion"** comes from two Latin words: **"Cum"** meaning **"with"** and, **"Panis"** meaning **"Bread."** It means making friends while "breaking bread." Friends are made in school cafeterias, fast food joints like MacDonald's & Wendy's, & over snacks in friends' homes.

Jesus gave himself to us to us under the form of food and drink – **"Take and eat, this is my body... Take and drink, this is my blood."** The Latin word **"Viaticum"** means **"food for the journey."** Jesus accompanies us along life's journey – illustrated in **Luke's Gospel**, where Jesus accompanies **2 disciples on the road to Emmaus.**

The friendship, the union between Jesus and his disciples in the Eucharist is so intimate, **St. Augustine** describes it - **"We become that which we receive."** He says when we eat ordinary food, we assimilate it and it becomes part of us. By contrast, he says, when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, **"We become that which we receive."** The challenge for us is to sustain that intimate friendship with Jesus by receiving him frequently in the Eucharist.



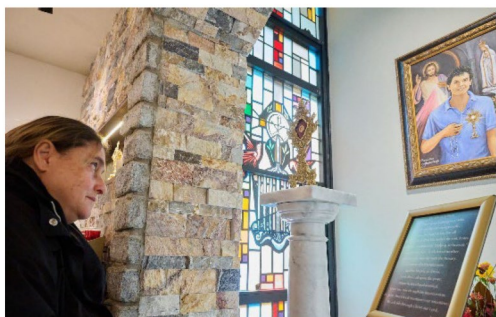
Difference the Eucharist made in the life of an Italian teenage computer whiz, canonized by the Church in 2026.

A 15-year-old Italian computer whiz, Carlo Acutis, touted as the *“patron saint of the internet,”* who **died of leukemia in 2006** was canonized a Saint by Pope Leo XIV in May 2026, is buried in Assisi with St Francis..

“Carlo used the internet in service of the Gospel, to reach as many people as possible.” **To spread devotion**

to the Eucharist, he created a worldwide website of 153 Eucharistic miracles. He saw the web *“as a place to use with responsibility, without becoming enslaved.”*

Acutis was born in London on May 3, 1991, to Italian parents and moved to Milan as a child. **Acutis’ mother, Antonia,** doesn’t know how Carlo came to love Jesus. He’d been baptized as a baby, but **the family didn’t practice the Faith.** Perhaps it was their Polish nanny who told Carlo about Jesus. His curiosity prompted his mom to study her faith to answer his questions, renewing her own faith. *“Carlo saved me. I was an illiterate of faith. Otherwise, I would have felt bad in my parent responsibility. It is a path that continues. I hope to at least wind up in purgatory,”* she said.



Antonia Salzano Acutis, Mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis, prays at a shrine for her son.

After receiving his First Communion, Carlo had begun to lament the many people who don’t go to Mass. **“They’ll stand in line for hours to go to a concert,”** he would say, **“but won’t stay even a moment before the tabernacle.”** Eager to do something to draw souls to Jesus, young Carlo began to research **Eucharistic miracles.** He was convinced that people wouldn’t be able to stay away from the Holy Mass if they knew about the miracles.

“The Eucharist is my highway to heaven,” was his life’s mantra, and nothing could get between him and his daily appointment with the Lord. **“The more we receive the Eucharist, the more we will become like Jesus,”** Carlo said, reminiscent of St. Augustine’s statement, **“We become that which we receive,”** with reference to receiving the Eucharist.

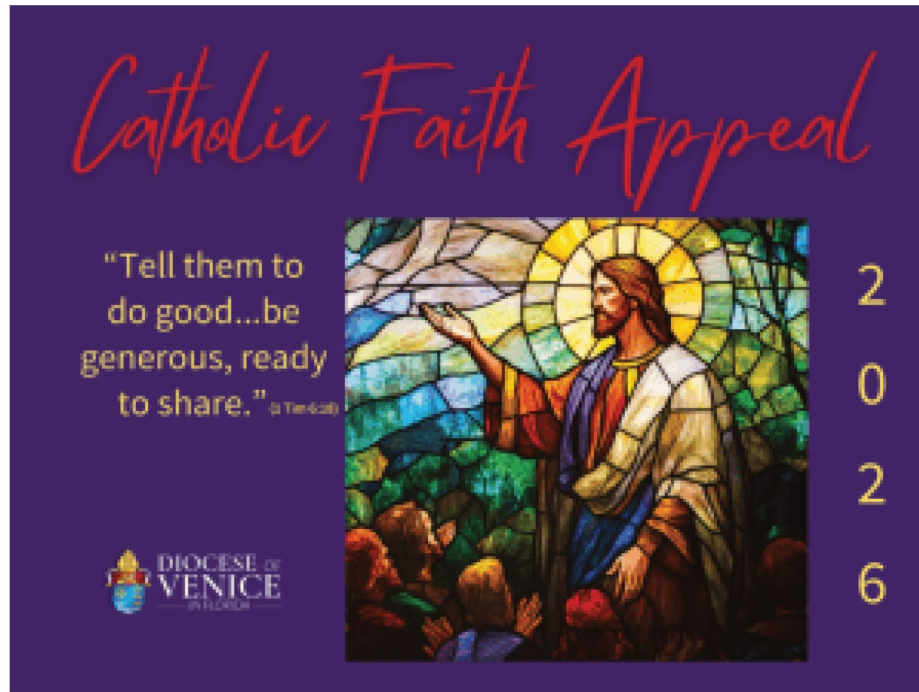
Carlo, like most teenagers, loved to play computer games like **Pokémon.** He loved to play soccer, go hiking, listen to contemporary music and, to do fun things like silly videos of his dogs. When, at 15, he went to the hospital and was diagnosed with an acute and untreatable leukemia, Carlo wasn’t upset. He was ready to go home. *“I can die happy,”* he told his mother, *“Because I haven’t wasted even a minute on things that aren’t pleasing to God.”* October 12, 2006, he was buried in track suit & sneakers. **He was canonized may, 2026,** in the Vatican by Pope Leo XIV. What an inspiration for all of us on the Feast of Corpus Christi.



Stewardship and Development

Stewardship is a lifestyle which, with faith and gratitude, acknowledges that God is our creator and owner of all we have. Recognizing that everything is a gift from God, a steward willingly gives a portion of those gifts to others, especially to those who are in need. Giving a portion of our financial resources is part of stewardship living.

2026 Catholic Faith Appeal update



Our Lady of Grace Parish 2026 CFA Goal
\$132,000.00

Received to Date – May 17, 2026
\$73,473.32 – 56.6% of Goal
From 9.2% of parishioners

Leaving a Balance of \$58,526.68

There are 1,283 families registered in OLG Parish.
90.8% have yet to make a pledge or 1 time donation.

Today, we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi. On this feast, we celebrate Jesus' total gift of Himself to us in the Eucharist. In John's Gospel, Jesus calls us to "love one another as I have loved you." In the CFA, we are called to respond to Jesus as he comes to us today in the needs of our brothers & sisters: "I was hungry... a stranger/immigrant and you welcomed me...." "When Lord? As long as you did it to one of my brothers and sisters in need, you did it to me."

How have you responded?



La Eucaristía: Cuerpo y Sangre

¿Qué enseña nuestra Fe acerca de la Eucaristía (lo cual proviene del griego y significa “acción de gracias”)? La Iglesia ha entendido que este Sacramento es el mismo Cristo, como bien dice en el Evangelio de hoy: *“Mi carne es verdadera comida y mi sangre es verdadera bebida. El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre, permanece en mí y yo en él.”*

Decimos que Cristo está “real, verdadera y sustancialmente presente” en la Eucaristía. Es realmente Su Presencia, *tiene “existencia real”, no solo existencia mental.* Es verdaderamente la Presencia de Cristo, no sólo un símbolo o representación. Y no importa lo que digan nuestros sentidos, sabemos que la sustancia es Cristo, quien está totalmente presente - Cuerpo, Sangre, Alma y Divinidad - en cada gota y cada migaja.

Es difícil para nosotros encajar esto en nuestros cráneos *porque es un misterio.* Dios es Misterio, y el Don de la Eucaristía es un Misterio. Es como una serie interminable de puertas que continuamos abriendo y atravesando y en las que nos deleitamos, pero que nunca agotaremos. ¡Siempre hay más para aprender y regocijarse!

Demos gracias y alabamos a Dios por todos Sus dones, especialmente el Don de Sí mismo, que permanece con nosotros y alimenta nuestras almas cansadas en la Eucaristía.

**Educación Religiosa
Edificio MacDonald
Grados K-12**

La Oficina de Educación Religiosa está abierta lunes a viernes de 9am-5pm para inscripciones para el año **2026-2027.** Se ofrece Formación para Jóvenes que han hecho su Confirmación. Además de información relacionada con la Catequesis de Adultos. Para información llamar Mayra Doñan 863-453-7537.



BAILEMOS FOR A CAUSE

**13 DE JUNIO, 2026
DE 5PM A 9PM**

VEN Y DISFRUTA DE NUESTRO BAILE DE VERANO. FONDOS PARA LAS ACTIVIDADES DE NUESTROS ESTUDIANTES DE LAS CLASES DE RELIGION. HABRA COMIDA, POSTRE, REFRESCO Y MUSICA CON DJ.

\$25.00 POR ADULTOS

Comida de 5pm a 7pm
Musica y Baile de 7pm a 9pm

Lugar: Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church
GROGAN CENTER
595 E. Main Street,
Avon Park, FL 33825

PARA BOLETOS Y MAS INFORMACION, LLAMEN A:
MARIA 863-373-2697
BEATRIZ 863-368-2566
NORMA 863-304-4391

GRUPO JUAN XXIII

¡Con Cristo Todo! ¡Sin Cristo nada!

Se reúne los Martes a las 6:30 PM en el salón San Juan Bosco. Para más información llamar Omar 863-205-0694 o Elvin 863-528-8267.

**Grupo de Oración “Santísima Trinidad”
¡Ven Espíritu Santo!**

Se reúne los jueves en el Edificio MacDonald (entrada por atrás) a las 7:00PM. Rosario a las 6:30. ¡Todos Bienvenidos! Para información llamar Hortencia 863-448-6869 o Adela 863-528-8267.

MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY JUNE 6**

8:00 a.m. No Mass.
 4:00 p.m. + William & Virginia Cook
 by Evelyn Seely.
 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass.

SUNDAY JUNE 7

8:00 a.m. + Penny Irilli by Frank Irilli.
 10:30 a.m. Bert Grant by Randy
 Rhodes.
 + Gene Baca by Victoria.

MONDAY JUNE 8

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY JUNE 9

8:00 a.m. + Rudy Tome by Bob Tome.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10

8:00 a.m. + Joan Bender by Dorothy
 Pansius.

THURSDAY JUNE 11

8:00 a.m. + Fr. Gerald Grogan.

FRIDAY JUNE 12

8:00 a.m. + John Coleman.

SATURDAY JUNE 13

4:00 p.m. + Walter, Mary & Jenny
 Drew by Evelyn Seely.
 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass.

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 Babbit
Rose Brault	Waylen James	Sherry
Jerry Grinkiewicz	Kim Nuccio	Jeannie Stopa
Jim Stopa	Marie Burley	Rick Burley
Ron Maslyk	Kathy Reiser	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 Bohs		

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 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.

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

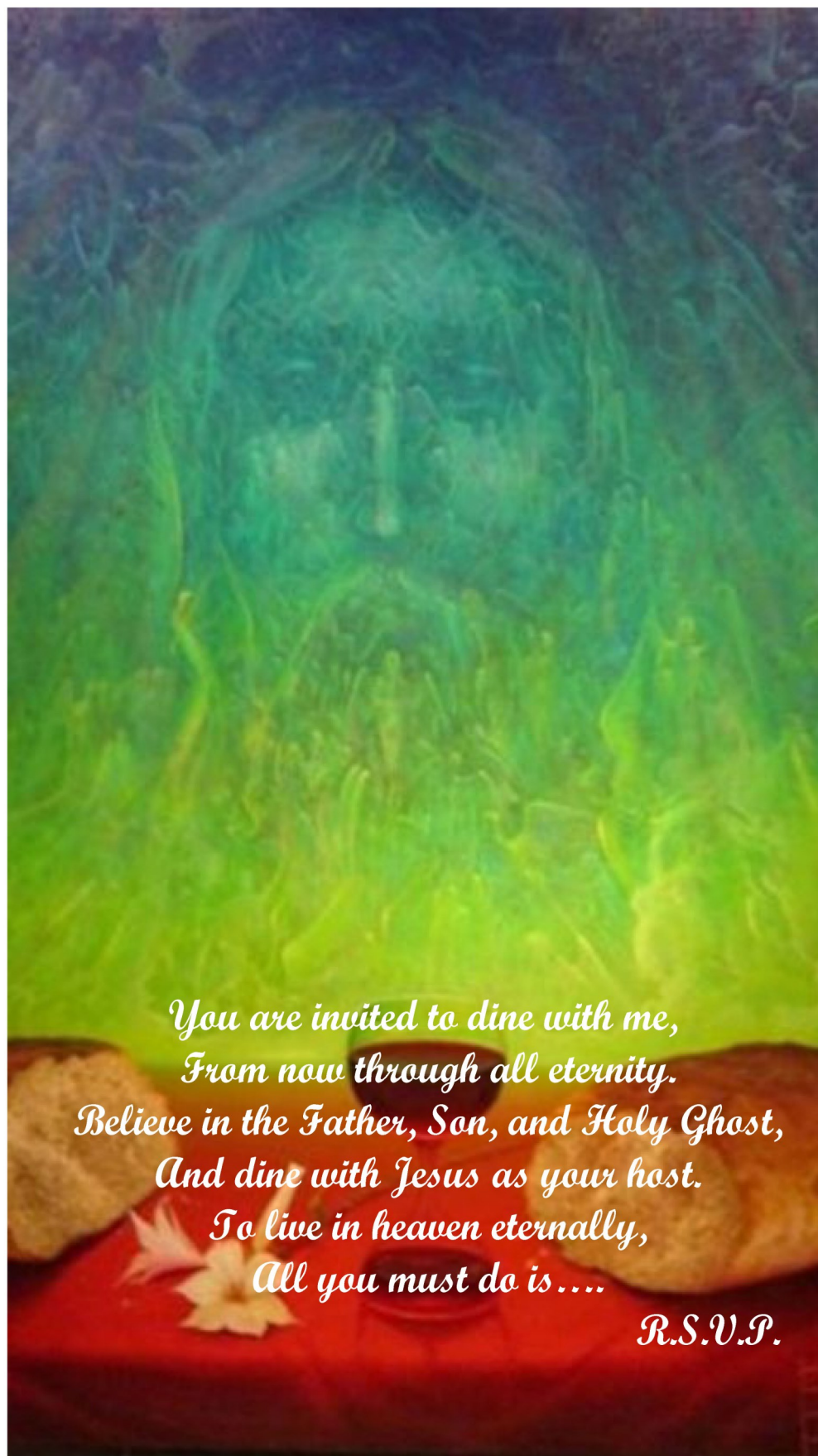
OCIA Director

Travis & Dawn Crosson
(863)453-4757

Parish Council

President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



*You are invited to dine with me,
From now through all eternity.
Believe in the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
And dine with Jesus as your host.
To live in heaven eternally,
All you must do is....*

R.S.V.P.

The Invitation