

Our Lady of

Grace
Catholic Parish



595 East Main Street • Avon Park, Florida 33825

Parish Office (863) 453-4757

Pentecost Sunday

May 24 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

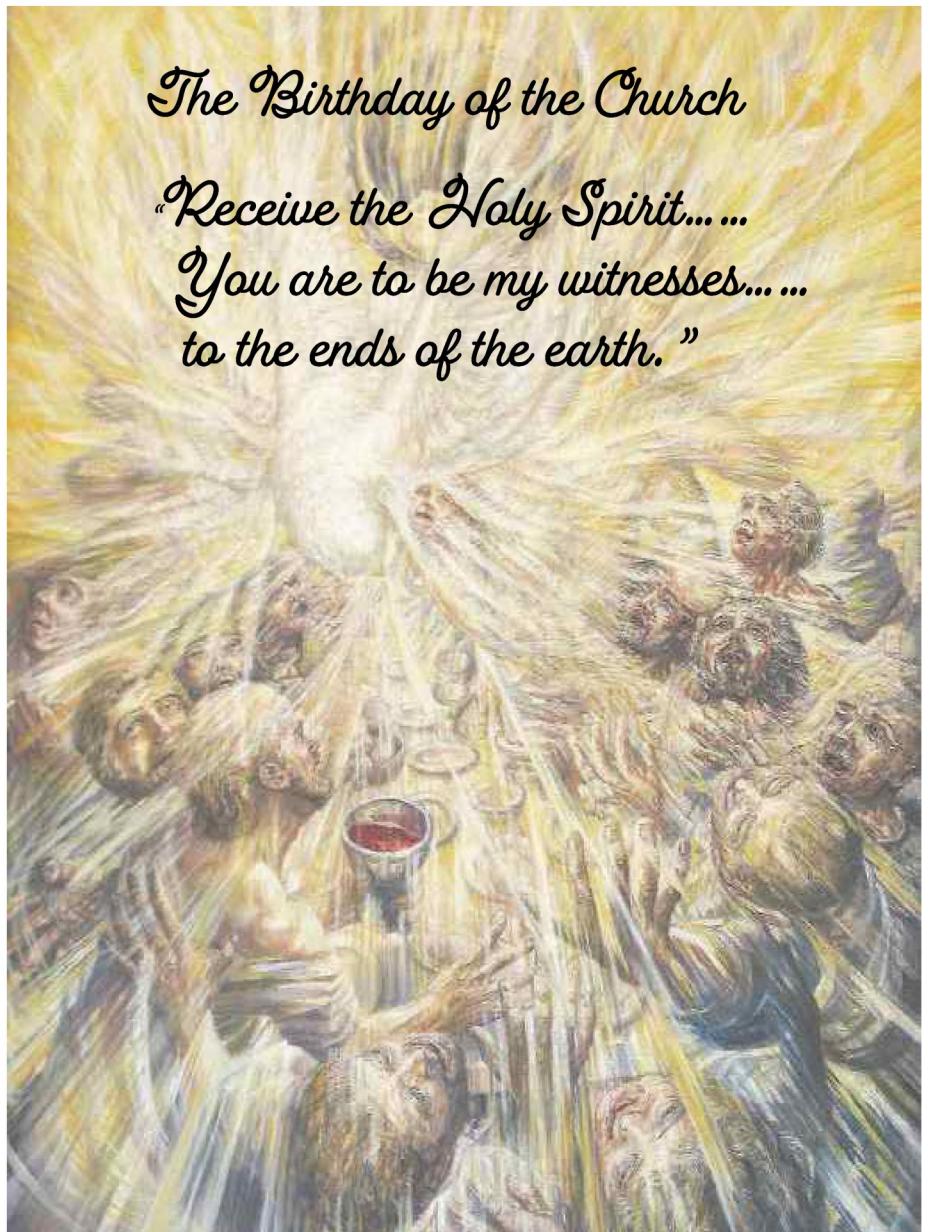
First Friday

Mass and Holy Hour
8 AM

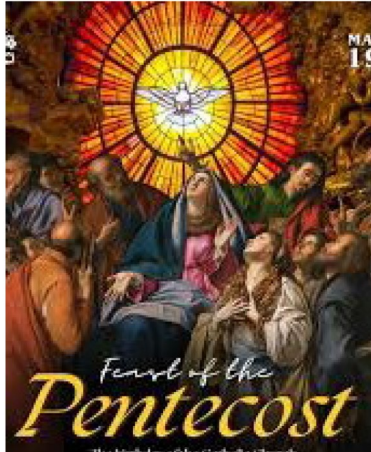
Visit us on the web!
www.ologap.org

The Birthday of the Church

*“Receive the Holy Spirit... ..
You are to be my witnesses... ..
to the ends of the earth.”*



Pentecost – The Birthday of the Church



Pentecost: Happy birthday Church; Jesus commissions the 12 Apostles

One bright Sunday morning, **Benson's mother** hurries into her son's bedroom and wakes him up. **"Benson, its Sunday. Time to get up! Time to get up and go to church! Get up!"** Benson mumbles from under the covers, **"I don't want to go."** **"What do you mean you don't want to go?"** says the mother. **"That's silly. Now get up and get dressed and go to church!"** Benson persists, **"No, I don't want to go and I'll give you two reasons why I don't want to go."** He sits up on the bed and continues, **"First, they don't like me and I don't like them."** **His mother replies, "Now, that's just plain nonsense. You've got to go to church and I'll give you two reasons why you must. First, you're now forty years old and, second, you're the pastor!"**

This sleepy Benson could as well be any of the 12 apostles who Jesus commissioned to be his "witnesses...to the ends of the earth." As soon as Jesus leaves them, they hide behind locked doors in the upper room in Jerusalem. They felt people did not like them; they knew their message was different from the popular message of the day. So, they hid behind locked doors out of fear.

Not unlike the 12, as **"witnesses"** of Jesus today, we hide, we privatize, our belief in Jesus; we are afraid to witness to it in the marketplace. We are afraid to address the cultural issues of our day.

Fortunately, Pastor Benson has a guide, his mother, who wakes him and persuades him to go out and preach. Jesus, in the Gospel, reminds us, as Benson's mother reminded him, we have a mission. Our mission is to tell everybody the Good News that God is our Father. Our mission is to break the barriers between "us" and "them," between male and female, between Jew and Gentile, between rich and poor, between Black and White, between First World and Third World, and to bring all to speak the one universal language of brotherly/sisterly love. **This is possible only through the power of the Holy Spirit.** Christianity is now 2000 years old. Yet even in the so-called Christian civilizations, the universal brotherhood/sisterhood of all in God through Christ is not understood.

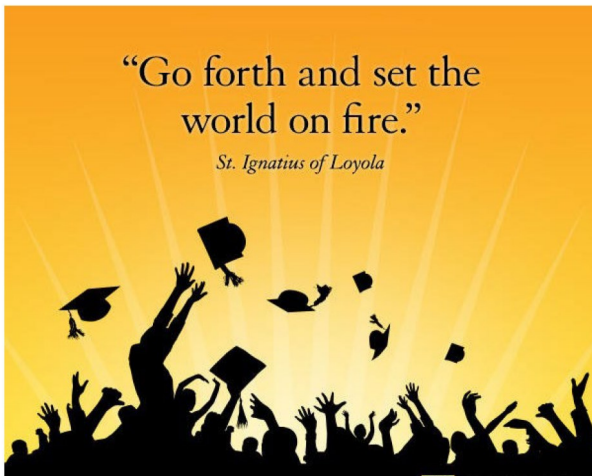
"What can I do?" many say, "I am only one individual. What difference can I make?"

Think of the kid that was walking along the seashore one morning. He saw thousands of sand dollars washed up on the shore. He picked one up and threw it into the ocean. An onlooker saw what he did. He asked the kid what he was doing? He said, **"I'm throwing the sand dollars back into the ocean."** The onlooker, looking at the miles of beach front lined with sand dollars, asked him, **"what difference will that make?"** The kid, picked up another sand dollar and, threw it into the ocean, said, **"it will make a difference to this one."**



Jesus says to us, **"Just do what you can do. Make a difference."** He empowers us, with the Holy Spirit... **"Receive the Holy Spirit..."** We see the difference that makes in the lives of the flawed apostles under the inspiration and empowerment of the Holy Spirit; they go out and witness to Jesus with great effect.

Let us conclude with a prayer to the H. Spirit: "Come O holy Ghost, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and they shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth." Jesus commissions and empowers the 12 Apostles – and us - to **"witness"** to him in the world with its many challenges – **the birthday of the Church.**



**Graduation Mass & Reception,
Sunday, May 31, 2026, 10:30 A.M.**

**There will be a special
Graduation Mass of
Thanksgiving for High
School graduates and their
families and friends.**

When?

Sunday, May 31, 2026

Time?

Mass at 10:30 A.M.

Information:

Call Parish office

453-4757.

Dress?

**Graduates should dress in
their schools' Graduation**

Gowns and caps:

**Red – Avon Park; Blue –
Sebring; Black – Frostproof.**



**High School Scholarships awarded from
OLG Ladies Guild.**

OLG Ladies Guild awarded 4 Avon Park High School Seniors \$1000.00 Scholarships. Awardees included: **Yavier Reyes, Kylee Faison and, Yoseline Ramirez-Marcelo.**

The scholarships were awarded based on applicants' academics and participation in Our Lady of Grace Church.

The Ladies Guild, also, awarded an additional \$1000.00 scholarship to **Troy Sanchez Vasquez** (not included in photo) to continue his education.

The graduates thank Our Ladies' Guild for their interest & generosity.



Prayer for Graduates: "Come Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of our graduates; enkindle in them the fire of your love"



First Communion Class with Fr Ronnie, Sunday, May 3, 2026



Confirmation Class with Bishop Dewane and Fr Ronnie, Wednesday, April 29, 2026

VEN, ESPÍRITU SANTO

LLENA LOS CORAZONES DE TUS FIELES

Domingo de Pentecostés

Sabiendo que el **Espíritu Santo** es una Persona de la Santísima Trinidad, parece que sólo podemos imaginar al **Espíritu** de acuerdo a sus acciones.

El **Espíritu** es la forma en que Jesús está presente hoy, así que cualquiera que realmente crea en Jesús es guiado por el **Espíritu**. El **Espíritu** nunca contradice a Jesús, así que cualquiera que afirme tener un nuevo conocimiento que se oponga a lo que Jesús enseñó, no está usando el **Espíritu**.

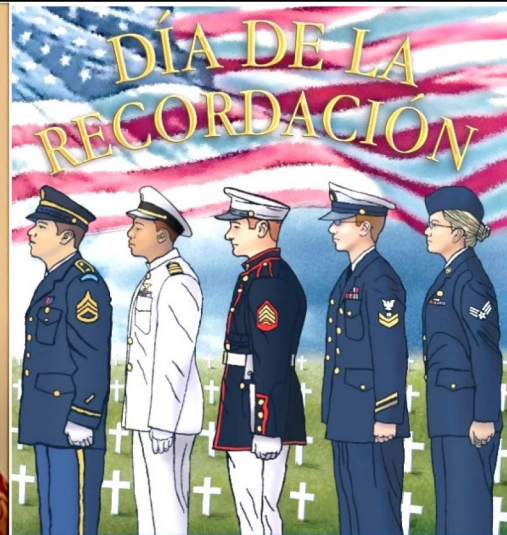
Segundo, San Pablo reconoce que el **Espíritu** obra de muchas formas. Menciona que hay muchos dones y servicios diferentes en la Iglesia. Las personas sirven a la Iglesia de diferentes formas y con diferentes habilidades. El punto es que todas estas diferencias provienen de la misma fuente, Dios.

Cuando pensamos en la fuerza de la Iglesia, solemos pensar en su unidad; un solo bautismo, una sola fe, un solo Señor. Pero también sacamos fuerzas de la diversidad de dones y servicios que las personas ofrecen a Dios. Si el pecado trajo una multitud de problemas al mundo, entonces el **Espíritu** trae una multitud de dones para ayudarnos a superar estos problemas. Como dice San Pablo, esta diversidad de dones es parte de un solo Cuerpo de Cristo. Así que fíjate en los dones de los que te rodean, y podrás ver al **Espíritu Santo** más claramente. —Tom Schmidt

MISA PARA ORAR POR LOS ENFERMOS

OUR LADY OF GRACE | Mayo 28, 2026
CATHOLIC CHURCH | 7:00pm-8:30pm

595 E Main St, Avon Park FL, 33825



JUAN XXIII

Edificio San Juan Bosco
Martes 7:00PM

Para Información
863-205-0694 / 863-853-0065

MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY MAY 23**

8:00 a.m. + Fr. Leo Frechette.
 4:00 p.m. + Barbara Eachvetto by
 Victoria Malanga.
 7:00 p.m. Juanita Pagan by Teresa
 Torres.

SUNDAY MAY 24

8:00 a.m. + Penny Irilli by Frank Irilli.
 10:30 a.m. + Fr. Leo Frechette by Judy
 Heiden.

MONDAY MAY 25

8:00 a.m. No Mass.

TUESDAY MAY 26

8:00 a.m. Birthday – Marivel Lugo
 Berry by Family.

WEDNESDAY MAY 27

8:00 a.m. + Angel Oliva by Paul &
 Justine Devlin.

THURSDAY MAY 28

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

FRIDAY MAY 29

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

SATURDAY MAY 30

8:00 a.m. No Mass.
 4:00 p.m. + Raffaele Aversa by Tom &
 Connie.
 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

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

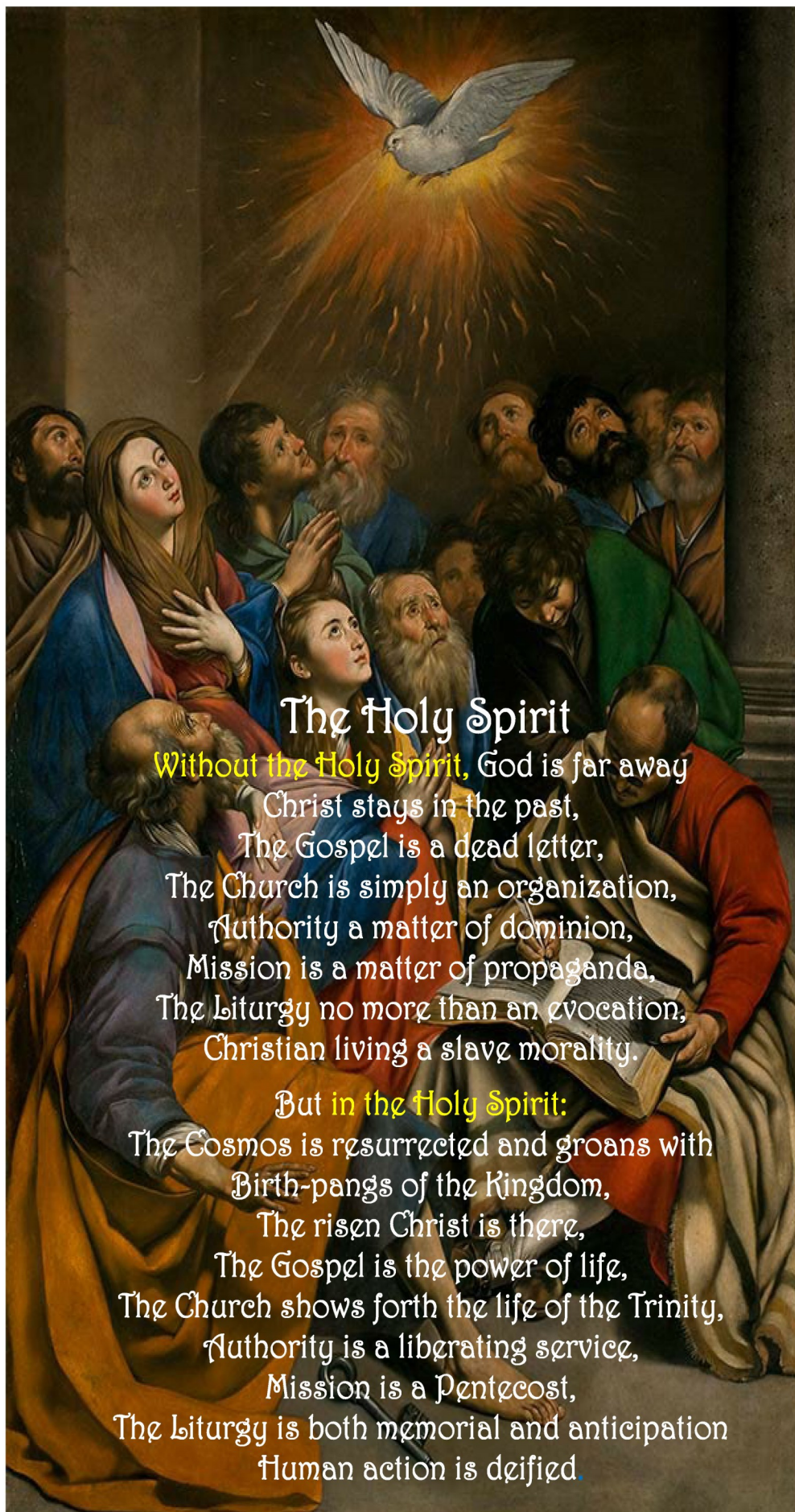
OCIA Director

Travis & Dawn Crosson
(863)453-4757

Parish Council

President

Betty Anne Lee
863-873-7176



The Holy Spirit

Without the Holy Spirit, God is far away
Christ stays in the past,
The Gospel is a dead letter,
The Church is simply an organization,
Authority a matter of dominion,
Mission is a matter of propaganda,
The Liturgy no more than an evocation,
Christian living a slave morality.

But in the Holy Spirit:

The Cosmos is resurrected and groans with
Birth-pangs of the Kingdom,
The risen Christ is there,
The Gospel is the power of life,
The Church shows forth the life of the Trinity,
Authority is a liberating service,
Mission is a Pentecost,
The Liturgy is both memorial and anticipation
Human action is deified.