



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

4450 County Road 579 • Seffner, FL 33584 (physical address)

P.O. Box 1218 • Seffner, FL 33583 (mailing address)

Phone (813) 681-9115 • Fax (813) 689-4148

www.stfranciscc.com • Email: sfaseffner@tampabay.rr.com

September 14, 2014 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

For God so loved the world that he gave

his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in
him shall not perish but have
eternal life



John 3:16 (NIV)

Priests of the Institute of Charity (Rosminians)

Pastor: Fr. Michael C. A. O'Neill, I.C.

Pastor Emeritus: Fr. Christopher R. Fitzgerald, I.C.

Priest in Residence: Fr. James McAteer, I.C.

Deacon Jerry Thomas Deacon Dick Beaudry

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:30 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Sunday Masses: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Rosary 25 minutes before each Mass

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Thursday: 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday thru Friday

After 8:00 Morning Mass to 4:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. First Friday: 7:30 a.m.

or Anytime by Appointment with Priest

Mass Intentions for the Week



Saturday	September 13
4:30 p.m.	†Raymond Stark by Marion Usher
6:30 p.m.	Spanish Mass
Sunday	September 14
8:30 a.m.	†Fr. David Czartorynski by Jim & Pat Barry
10:30 a.m.	†Peter Monti by Catherine Monti
4:30 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
Monday	September 15
8:00 a.m.	Intention of Ann Johnson by Billie
Tuesday	September 16
8:00 a.m.	Intention of Lilah Gill by Susan Soleau
Wednesday	September 17
8:00 a.m.	†Gertrude Coffey Kasel
Thursday	September 18
8:00 a.m.	†Maria Pham by the Tran Family
6:30 p.m.	Spanish Mass †Alberto Cabrera-Barnes by the Cabrera Family
Friday	September 19
8:00 a.m.	†Harry Womack by Joyce Womack
Saturday	September 20
4:30 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Francis
6:30 p.m.	Spanish Mass
Sunday	September 21
8:30 a.m.	†Santa Prescottti by Billie
10:30 a.m.	†Virginia Morrison by Dyanne, Juanita & Dolores
4:30 p.m.	†Pierre Casagrande by Josette Casagrande

Prayer to Avert Storms

Father, all the elements of nature obey Your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of Your power into praise of Your goodness. Give us the fine weather we pray for so that we may rejoice in Your gifts of kindness and use them always for Your glory and our good. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit one God forever and ever. Amen.

IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS, please pray for those who are ill, homebound, or confined to hospitals and nursing homes, *especially for the following:*

Fr. Fitzgerald, Benjamin Carlene Mingle, Cindy Mel-Ambrose, Adam Alexander, Ion, Rina & Luis Maura, Warren Ashton, James Alberta Migues, Heidi Barkow, Mary Baron, Louise Miller, Carleen & Ernest & Heather Berard, Jim Mingle, Ed Murray, Dee Brown, William Bella, Helen O'Connor, John Brittany Bourassa, Pat Openlander, James Peder-Brinley, Dolores Budden-son, Mary Elizabeth Pobrock, Jimmy & James lumbo, Richard Pope, Rev. Burke, Raymond Burke, Joseph Presley, I.C., June Goldie Buggert, Dana Cal-Fay Roberts, Pat Racic, vani, Yovanna Campos Frances Radis, Karin Slater Cabrere, Patty Capitano, Reinert, Helen Sakevich, Michael Casagrande, John Catherine Schaefer, Mary Cushwa, Edward DeMars, Schembri, Bill Shumsky, Carmen Connors, Delia De- Laura Spivey, Evelyn vine, Eloise Dolphy, Rich- Steen, Andy Stramel, Jr., ard Ellis, Ruth Erlendsson, Stanton Sullivan, Berna-Rosemarie Gabriel, Ed- dette Suppa, James Toles, George, Mary Geraci, Betty Valleri, Isabel Val-Paula Goodman, Kenny dez, Frank Vass, Al Vei-Gay, Patricia Graf, Joy- notte, Alice Veinotte, Lucy Grimm, Rachel Harlor, Vessa, Martin Vicari, Adrianna Helton, Marlene Gabriel Wagner, George Hill, Charlie Homs, Ann Wagner, Brittney Wilbur, Johnson, Helen Kate, Ste- and the Homebound and ven Lauria, Fr. Demetrio their Caregivers and the Lordan, Anne & Frankie repose of the souls of Maria Mansis, Aliceia Marrone, Mazza and Beeby Byers. John McFaul, Jim Miller,

Please remember to pray for our troops, especially:

Daniel Hutton	Helen Castillo	John Andrew Marple
Karen Castillo	Derrick M. Shea	James E. Desaulniers
Aran Miller	Rafael E. Santiago	Brennan Tyska
Jarred Taracido	Nathan Berry	James Kropp
Joseph Michalek	Devon Michael Callicoat	Robin Brown
Juan Cruz	Matt Daniels	Josh Silva
Christian Morelo	Jack Vine	Charles Laing III
Adam Murray	Jesse Witt	Christa Seals
Kris Urquhart	Brittany L. Jones Baker	Joshua Eicholz
Stefan Tyska	Adam Baker	Kurt Datol
Mickey Reese	Cameron Trinkle	Kevin Lime
Christopher Heacox	Zachary Trinkle	
Ryan Levy Cruz	Brandon Trinkle	
Jeff Calvani	Dan Holder	
Robert Lewis	Jesse Doyle	
Greg Bender	Kenneth Urquhart	
Ryan Hurley	Aaron C. Lint	
J.P. Zolomayor	Lawrence Morgan Null	



Welcome to St. Francis of Assisi!

We extend a special welcome to all our visitors and new parishioners who have come to celebrate Mass with us today! If you are new to our community, please introduce yourself to our clergy. If you live in this area and attend regularly, we invite you to join our parish of St. Francis of Assisi. Registration is necessary for better care of souls, more effective administration of sick calls, and matters pertaining to baptism, education, marriage and burial.

Registration is very easy and the green "*Parish Registration*" cards can be found in the pamphlet holder above the table in the lobby. After completing, please place in the Parish Drop Box, located in the door by the water fountain in the lobby.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, they lived (Numbers 21:4b-9).

Psalms — Do not forget the works of the Lord! (Psalm 78).

Second Reading — Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel — God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that those who believe might have eternal life (John 3:13-17).

BEING LIFTED UP

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds Nicodemus how Moses had "lifted up the serpent in the desert." Then Jesus says, "So must the Son of Man be lifted up, that all who believe may have eternal life in Him." The evangelist clearly saw this "lifting up" of Jesus to mean His crucifixion.

That "lifting up" of the serpent by Moses is described in today's first reading. The people were attacked by "saraph serpents," and many died. God had Moses make an image of the serpent and put it on a pole and lift it up. The people who had been bitten looked at it and recovered.

Jesus "emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave." Lifted up on the cross, He was despised and seemed the most abject of people. But it was in embracing this disgrace and painful death that He became the bearer of eternal life for all of us. His "lifting up" in shame was also His "lifting up" in glory and triumph.

LIVING GOD'S WORD

Young people are good at risking. They do it with abandon, mostly because they've got nothing to lose, and so they do it almost instinctively and without thinking about it. As we begin to accumulate years, we also accumulate stuff. Perhaps to be young at heart is to be willing to risk being emptied.

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

"Tell me, what is it that you plan to do with your life?" It's a good question, but also a haunting one that makes us so edgy and anxious that we wonder if our life is real at all. It's the sort of question we'd sometimes rather not even hear, much less attempt to answer.

So what is it that you plan to do with your life? We say we're going to get married and raise a family. Or we're going to get a job that pays well. Or we're going to play professional baseball or football or some such thing when we grow up. Or we're going to retire and enjoy life. So what is it that you plan to do with your life? There is only one life, after all, one to spend lavishly or cautiously, one to treasure or squander or hoard, one to laugh with or cry with or maybe just sit in a daze with for sixty or seventy or eighty years. The trouble is, or perhaps more honestly the sadness is, that few of us ever answer that gentle but probing question, because we don't know.

What God did was to give away what was most precious, God's only Son, so that we might find life. And what Jesus did was to empty Himself, so that God could fill Him with life and exalt Him. It seems that while you and I are preoccupied with finding meaning by filling our lives, the divine instinct is to empty life so that meaning might find us.
~ Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

READING FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33;
Psalms 40:7-10, 17
or Psalms 31:2-6, 15-16, 20; John 19:25-27
or Luke 2:33-35
- Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a;
Psalms 100:1-5; Luke 7:11-17
- Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 12:31 — 13:13;
Psalms 33:2-5, 12, 22; Luke 7:31-35
- Thursday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;
Psalms 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28; Luke 7:36-50
- Friday: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20;
Psalms 17:1bcd, 6-8b, 15; Luke 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49;
Psalms 56:10c-14; Luke 8:4-15
- Sunday: Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18;
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- Monday: Our Lady of Sorrows;
Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday: Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian
- Wednesday: St. Robert Bellarmine
- Friday: St. Januarius
- Saturday: Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn,
Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions

Ministries Schedule September 20th & st**Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Mass****Rosary Leader:** Soleau, S.**Altar Servers:** Adult Volunteers**Lector:** Chordas, T.**E.M.H.C.:** Subko; Lyons; Chordas; Toles, C. & C.; Angelo, J. & J.**Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Mass****Rosary Leader:** Silva, D.**Altar Servers:** Adult Volunteers**Lector:** Martin, A.**E.M.H.C.:** Boucher; Mularoni; Simpson; Leone; Pasden; Plourde**Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Mass****Rosary Leader:** Oliu, M.**Altar Servers:** Brown Family**Lector:** Nunes, P.**E.M.H.C.:** Mussenden; Vazquez; Quintas, J. & T.; DiRisio; Monaldi, F. & J.**Sunday - 4:30 p.m. Mass****Rosary Leader:** Diaz, D.**Altar Servers:** Sweeney, S.; Kennon, G.**Lector:** Sweeney, K.**E.M.H.C.:** LePochat; Murray, A.; Sweeney; Hazzard; Whitehead**Homebound E.M.H.C.****1st Group:** Dottie Mabe & Kathy Carr**2nd Group:** David & Monica Brandies**3rd Group:** Pete & Henri Plourde**Eucharistic Adoration**

Monday - Friday..... 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Legion of Mary

Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Novena to Our Lady, Queen of Peace

Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

First Friday: 7:30 a.m. or
anytime by appointment with priest.**Anointing of the Sick**For all those threatened by serious illness: available
anytime, but particularly during daily Mass.**Baptisms**

After required instruction, contact parish office.

MarriageContact office at least six months before desired date
and before setting date.**Business Office Hours**

Monday - Friday..... 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This Week at St. Francis**September 14 - 20, 2014****Faith Formation****Sunday
September 14****Faith Formation****Monday
September 15**

Emaus Group

7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday
September 16**

Legion of Mary

8:30 a.m.

Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

7:00 p.m.

Pope John XXIII Prayer Group

7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday
September 17**

Dinner for the Needy

4:30 p.m.

RCIA

7:15 p.m.

MDS Group

7:30 p.m.

**Thursday
September 18**

Bible Study

8:30 a.m.

Choir Practice

7:30 p.m.

**Saturday
September 20**

Hispanic Faith Formation

5:00 p.m.

Hispanic Youth Group

5:00 p.m.

Hispanic Choir Practice

5:00 p.m.

40 Days for Life

The Diocese of St. Petersburg's fifth annual *40 Days for Life* campaign, began September 26th and goes through November 4th, and each Sunday, beginning **September 24th through November 2ND**, **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will take place **after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the main sanctuary**. Across the country, *40 Days of Life* Campaigns have seen at least 5,928 women seeking abortion change their minds. At least 17 women who made life decisions as a direct result of our prayer campaigns in the Tampa Bay area from 2008 to present. While these statistics are wonderful to recall, we must also remember that we will never know the full effect that our prayers have had on the lives of mothers, babies, clinic workers, and others in the community. ***Please plan to attend and participate in our prayer campaign here at St. Francis on Sundays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass, beginning September 28th.***

From Your Parish Nurse**10 Warning Signs of Hearing Loss**
(per Beltone)

- . People seem to mumble more frequently
- . You experience ringing in your ears
- . You often ask people to repeat themselves. Your family complains that you play the radio/TV too loudly. You no longer hear normal household sounds (dripping faucet, doorbell ringing) . You have difficulty understanding conversation when in a large crowd . You hear, but have trouble understanding all the words said. You find telephone conversation increasingly difficult. You have trouble hearing when your back is turned to the speaker. You have been told you speak too loudly. If you experience these problems repeatedly, getting your hearing checked would be a good idea. Hearings an important sense that keeps us in touch and alert to the world around us. ***Good thing hearing the voice of the Lord in our hearts doesn't require well-tuned physical ears!***



RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) PROGRAM NEWS

Have you been away from the Church? Are you thinking about coming back? Do you know someone who wants to come home to the Catholic Church, but is struggling with their faith? Maybe you or someone you know has experienced one of these thoughts:

I grew up Catholic, but for some reason I just sort of stopped going to Church...

I just moved to a new city, I tried going to a couple different parishes, but I never really felt welcomed.

After my marriage ended, I felt uncomfortable around my family, friends and parish...

I just don't understand why the Church teaches what it does! Some teachings seem so outdated...

I tried to contact my parish about getting married but no one got back to me...

If you have experienced one of these situations or thoughts you are not alone. The Church wants you to know that you are a child of God, called by name, precious in His eyes and loved by Him (Isaiah 43:1,4). The Church also wants you to know that you are missed. When one member of the Body of Christ suffers, the entire Body of the Church suffers.

If you are interested in this *life changing program*, or if you have questions, **please call the parish office at 681-9115 and ask to speak with Deacon Dick or one of our other clergy.**

Calling All Those in Liturgical Ministry!!

Ministry Renewal Morning, October 11th, 2014

Coordinators of Lay Ministries and Members of those ministries are asked to reserve the morning of **Saturday, October 11th**, from **9:00 a.m. to noon**, to participate in a morning of reflection and commitment. **The Ministry Renewal Morning is obligatory** to the members of the following ministries: **EMHC's and EMHC's to the Homebound, Lectors, Sacristans and Ushers**. Lunch will be served at the conclusion of the morning. Please notify the parish office if you are unable to attend.

Passion for the Church



Blessed Antonio Rosmini, Founder of the Institute of Charity

Time and again we hear the comment: **I'm all for Jesus, but forget the Church**. It's a separation that makes no sense. As Christ's disciples, we are called to gather for worship and to go forth in mission – we *are* Church. Yet we're certainly not perfect. The Church on earth has always been disfigured by sin. Simply put, we make mistakes. But this should not lead us to despair or negativity. Antonio Rosmini endured much unfounded criticism during his lifetime, yet he teaches us a profound lesson: **in times of trouble or when faced with obstacles we can still trust totally in the providential love of God**. Instead of blaming others, we are drawn to live more deeply our own life in Christ through prayer, reflection, and witness to His truth. In patterning our lives after

Him, we find peace, we overcome division, and together we build communion.

The weekend of **September 20th & 21st** there will be a brochure available titled: *Antonio Rosmini: Man of the Church*. It is one of a series that the Rosminians (the Institute of Charity and the Rosminian Sisters of Providence) are distributing so that people from all walks of life may come to share something of the spiritual treasure of Antonio Rosmini, Servant of God. Feel free to pick one up after Mass. If you would like to learn more about Rosmini and participate in a 6-lesson (once a month) study on Rosminian spirituality, Debbie Cuesta will be available after all Masses the weekend of September 15th & 16th for any questions.

St. Francis Chronicle



Francis: Bluey, I notice many young folk among the homeless who come through our door looking for lunch bags..

Blue Jay: Correct, dear saint, and it's sad to see to see them without family support, without employment, wandering around the area like lost souls.

Francis: Thankfully, St Francis welcomes them with compassion and food whenever our front office is open, and then there's a good sit-down meal for them every Wednesday afternoon...

Blue Jay: And they move around to other churches that offer them a similar welcome.

Francis: "Doing the rounds" as it were, "eating out every day of the year!"

Blue Jay: But while no one is starving, they are still lacking the family support and social interaction that everybody needs..

Francis: Too true, Bluey, too true, and add to that the spiritual blessings that living our faith brings to us?

Blue Jay: They are almost like the lepers of Jesus' time, outcasts from normal society, right?

Francis: And He came close and touched them with His healing hand do you remember?

Blue Jay: And I suppose He would want us to do the same with our homeless...

Francis: Yes, I'm sure he would, Bluey.

Blue Jay: Thank God, I only have wings!

Parish Ministries

Altar Servers	
Maria LePochat	651-9813
Church Musicians	
Ramon Martos	
Adam DeMary	
Clothing Pantry	
Bill Klosterman	982-0377
Eucharistic Adoration	
Susan Soleau	689-6914
Faith Formation	
Judy Erlendsson	661-3091
Eucharistic Ministers	
Pam Caskey	651-1165
Helping Hands	
Judy Harris	653-0055
Hispanic Ministry	
Sonia Barroso	651-4038
Hispanic Religious Education	
Cristina Garcia	571-5430
Hispanic Baptism Classes	
Maria Elena Parilla	657-0218
HomeBound/Nursing Home Visitation	
Monica & David Brandies	654-1969
Knights of Columbus	
Steve Jarosz	685-2021
Lectors	
Alice Murray	315-9613
Legion of Mary	
Marie Colvin	571-8170
Rosary Leader	
Dawn Silva	649-8957
RCIA	
Deacon Dick Beaudry	689-0769
Sacristans	
Maria Ocampo	653-3011
Scouts	
Kathy & Ted Domey	685-8242
Tender Care/Food Pantry	
John Familetti	681-9115
Ushers	
Ron Mullen	661-5983
Women's Guild	
Becky Kline	685-1977
Youth Group	
Steve Jarosz	685-2021

Stewardship of Time & Talent Salute

In gratitude for God's gifts of time and talent to our parish, we acknowledge and salute **Dionisia Touzin, Altar Server...**
Thank you, Dionisia!!

Stewardship Reflection

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..."
 ~ John 3:16

God gave us the gift of His son so we can enjoy eternal salvation. Of all our gifts, our life, is the most precious. We belong to God. **This is why we must take time every day to ask Him how He wants us to use the life He has given us.**

Stewardship of Sacrificial Giving

Sunday, August 31, 2014

"Charity is above all a hymn of love."

Offertory Collection	\$8,714.89
Children's & Youth Envelope & Loose/Contents	0/\$76.00
On Line Giving/Offertory	\$1,195.00
Total Offertory for this week	\$9,985.89
Total Offertory, week of 2013	\$7,511.00
Increase	\$2,474.89
Envelopes Issued/Used	676/245(37%)
Building Fund	\$201.00
On Line Building Fund	\$60.00
Total Building Fund for this week	\$261.00
Assumption of Mary Collection	\$120.00
Total Assumption of Mary Collection	\$2,304.69
Budgeted Expense This Month	\$47,000.00
Total Receipts Month to Date	\$50,760.18
2014 APA	\$523.50
On Line 2014 APA	\$600.00
Total 2014 APA for this week	\$1,123.50

~ Give Generously From Your Heart ~

MASS ATTENDANCE

4:30 p.m. 140	6:30 p.m. 272
8:30 a.m. 202	10:30 a.m. 235
4:30 p.m. 131	
Total Attendance: 980	

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK IS:

PEDIATRIC CARE CENTER



602 Vonderburg Dr., Suite 102
 Brandon, FL

813-681-5714

Please patronize the businesses that make our bulletin possible.

Thank You!

~ For the Week of August 31, 2014 ~

POOR BOX DONATIONS

\$186.70

DINNER MINISTRY BOX DONATIONS

\$315.37

Thanks to all who so generously support our Poor Box & Dinner Ministry Collections. Because of your support, we are able to help those in need. *Thank you and God bless!!*

How Well Do You Know Your Faith?

What We Catholics Believe...



What is divine providence?

Divine providence is the guidance of all creatures to their final end by God's wisdom and love. God does not permit evil unless some good come from it.

Who are the angels?

Angels are spiritual creatures who always glorify God, who surround Christ their Lord and serve Him.



Why did God create us?

God created us in His own likeness to serve Him and to rule over all creation. We are meant to become images of Jesus, God's Son made man, to share God's own life.

Do we have a soul?

God immediately created a spiritual and immortal soul for each person.

Who were our first parents?

God created Adam and Eve, our first parents, and placed them in original holiness in paradise.

What do we mean by the Fall?

Satan, also called the devil, refused to serve God. He tempted man to sin against God and man lost holiness and fell into sin.

What is original sin?

Adam and Eve transmitted to their descendants a wounded human nature, deprived of grace. That nature is weakened, inclined toward sin (concupiscence), ignorance, suffering and death. (The only human person not conceived in sin was Mary, the Mother of God; this is called the Immaculate Conception.)

Is Christ the remedy for the fall?

Jesus Christ, crucified and risen from the dead, has set us free from sin. He has given us greater blessings than sin has taken from us. That is why the Gospel is called "the Good News."

