



# 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

**Priests of the  
Institute of Charity (Rosminians)**

**Pastor**

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

**Parochial Vicar**

Fr. Henry Konnoth Sebastian, I.C.

**Priest in Residence**

Fr. James McAteer, I.C.

Deacon Jerry Thomas

Deacon Dick Beaudry

**Hispanic Ministry:**

**Fr. Rafael Martos**

**Mass Schedule**

Vigil Mass (Saturday):

4:30 p.m. (English)

6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

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

**Weekday Masses**

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m.

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

Rosary 25 minutes before each Mass

**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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 14, 2017

YOU  
ARE  
A CHOSEN  
RACE,  
A ROYAL  
PRIESTHOOD,  
A HOLY  
NATION

# Mass Intentions for the Week



- Saturday May 13**  
4:30 p.m. †Dixie Townsend by Marion Usher  
6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass
- Sunday May 14**  
8:30 a.m. †Estelle, Florence & Santa  
by Billie  
10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi  
4:30 p.m. †Pierre & Josette Casagrande  
by Anne & Jose DeLaFuente  
& Michael Casagrande
- Monday May 15**  
8:00 a.m. †Ann Johnson  
by Rachel Harlor
- Tuesday May 16**  
8:00 a.m. †Robert Strickland  
by Frances Strickland
- Wednesday May 17**  
8:00 a.m. †Bette Hazzard  
by Sue Soleau
- Thursday May 18**  
8:00 a.m. †Ingrid Ramos  
by Carl Francis Kosierowski  
6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass
- Friday May 19**  
8:00 a.m. †Goldie Buggert  
by the Galando Family
- Saturday May 20**  
4:30 p.m. Intention of Mary Elizabeth Pumbo  
by Mary Elizabeth Pumbo  
6:30 p.m. Spanish Mass
- Sunday May 21**  
8:30 a.m. Intention of Katherine Wells  
by the Office Staff  
10:30 a.m. †William Elliott  
by Diane Swank  
4:30 p.m. Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

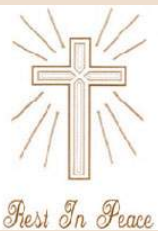
**IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS, please pray for those who are ill, homebound, or confined to hospitals and nursing homes, especially for the following:**

Benjamin Ambrose, Alicia Arguelles, Anthony Augello, James Barry, Kathy Barry, Carmela Blair, Richard & Marie Bowers, Dee Brown, Dolores Buddenbrock, Teresa Burdier, Dana Calvani, Patty Capitano, Maria Celani, Helen & Jack Clark, Carmen Connors, John Danet, Lisa DeJordy, Doug Dimick, Omar & Jane Elwer, Barbara Fellabick, Paul Gabriel, Philip Gabriel, Rosemarie Gabriel, Kenny Gay, Scott Gill, Paul Guthrie, Charles Hall, Rachel Harlor, Coleman & Marlene Hill, Patricia Koch, Mary Little, Aliceia Marrone, John & Charlotte McFaul, Agnes McGinn, Carleen Mingle, Darryl Mummert, Robin Murphy, Ed & Gerry Murray, John Openlander, Helen O'Connor, Charles Paisley, Don Parker, Tim Pasden, Joseph Polak, Mary Elizabeth Pumbo, John Poulos, Luisa Puerto, Shirley Puerto, Theresa Redgrave, Catherine Schaefer, Mary Schembri, Bill Shumsky, Darrell Sitton, Catherine Mary Skidmore, Stanton Sullivan, Bernadette Suppa, Joseph Suppa Jr., Phyllis Suppa, Betty Valleri, Al Veinotte, Alice Veinotte, Dorian Vicario, John Vicario, Martin Vicario, Carol Wagner, Gabriel Wagner, George Wagner, Joan Wagner, Kurt Wicker, Mary Winiarski, the Homebound and their Caregivers and the repose of the soul of Betty Hearne and Michael Casagrande

**LORD,**  
Look upon me with eyes of mercy, may Your healing hand rest upon me, may Your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.

**Please remember to pray for our troops, especially:**

- |                    |                        |                      |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Daniel Hutton      | Jesse Witt             | Shai Ane Belinski    |
| Aran Miller        | Brittany L Jones Baker | Kevin Lime           |
| Jarred Taracido    | Adam Baker             | Patrick Jonker       |
| Joseph Michalek    | Cameron Trinkle        | Remy Herrero         |
| Juan Cruz          | Zachary Trinkle        | Leobardo Martinez    |
| Spencer Dewey      | Brandon Trinkle        | Alejandro Cuesta     |
| Kris Urquhart      | Dan Holder             | Wesley Kosierowski   |
| Stefan Tyska       | Jesse Doyle            | Christopher Jeffers  |
| Mickey Reese       | Kenneth Urquhart       | Jared Michael Null   |
| Christopher Heacox | Aaron C. Lint          | Haley Elizabeth Null |
| Ryan Levy Cruz     | Lawrence Morgan Null   | Donovan O'Connor     |
| Jeff Calvani       | John Andrew Marple     | Anna Jeffers         |
| Ryan Hurley        | James E. Desaulniers   | Jaiden Andrus        |
| J.P. Zotomayor     | Brennan Tyska          | Tony Cuesta          |
| Helen Castillo     | James Kropp            | Michael Mulhern      |
| Derrick M. Shea    | Robin Brown            |                      |
| Nathan Berry       | Josh Silva             |                      |
| Devon M. Callicoa  | Charles Laing III      |                      |
| Matt Daniels       | Mario Perez            |                      |
| Jack Vine          | Joshua Eicholz         |                      |



Eternal rest, grant unto them,  
O Lord, and let perpetual  
light shine upon them.  
May the souls of the faithful  
departed through the mercy  
of God rest in peace. Amen.

*Rest In Peace*

## 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—To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers (Acts 6:1-7).

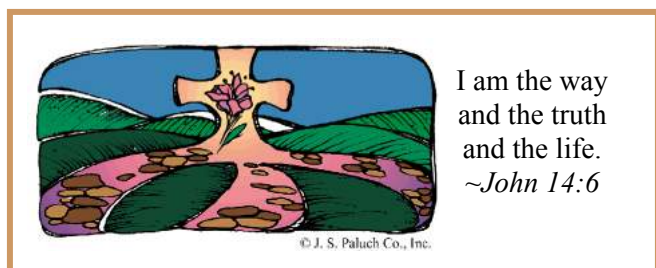
Psalm—Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

Second Reading—We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:4-9).

Gospel—"Show us the Father," Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: "Whoever sees me, sees the Father" (John 14:1-12).

## The Way

Today we sense the apostles' trepidation as they begin to realize that the Lord would soon be leaving them. In their fear, they ask, "*Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?*" (John 14:5). Jesus tells them that He is the way. The Easter season has been a time of growing in Easter faith so that we, too, may learn to know that Jesus is the way. We can take comfort in the Lord's promise that He is going to His Father's house to prepare a place for us, His chosen people who have been called out of darkness into God's wonderful light. As the paschal candle continues to burn during this holy season, let us **remember that in baptism we were given the light of Christ**. With Christ our light as the beacon lighting our way, let us march toward the glory of Pentecost.



## Greater Than Jesus?

Of all the promises Jesus gave to his disciples, sometimes I find the one at the end of today's Gospel to be the most amazing of all. Jesus tells His disciples that they would do greater works than He did. What could be greater than walking on water, curing a blind man, raising the dead, or feeding five thousand people with only a few loaves of bread?

First, we have to ask what Jesus would think is greater. The apostles performed many miracles because of their faith in the Lord. They cured the sick, and Peter even brought a dead woman back to life (Acts 9:40). But even these signs are not greater than what Jesus did.

No, Jesus meant greater in the sense of the true work of a disciple. The disciples started right after Pentecost, when they received the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter went outside and began preaching to the people—**not just any crowd, but those who called for Jesus to be crucified** (Acts 2:14-41). The story ends with three thousand people getting baptized.

I wonder if we have that same kind of trust in Jesus that the apostles had. Maybe we have to start like they did. They talked about their experience of finding the empty tomb. They prayed, they discussed what had happened, and they looked for Jesus to appear to them. We can do those same things. We can talk about our faith with our families, in a parish discussion group, or helping with the RCIA. We can pray to be filled with the gifts of the Spirit and to see Jesus in other people. And we can look for God to act in our lives so that we can share God's love, which has been given to us, with those who do not know the Lord.

~Tom Schmidt

## Finding Faith in the Real World

The tensions within the readings are tensions we feel every day between our faith and the world in which we live. We stumble over stones that litter the way, over lies that hide the truth, even over the reality of death. We want our faith to be solid, so we can test its permanence and reality. **But faith is not concrete. Faith is a living thing, a leap into the unknown. Works are concrete.** The works of the apostles are what sustained them even as they struggled with their own faith. We must feed the hungry and shelter the homeless even as we speak to ourselves and others of faith beyond brick and mortar. While we live in a world of harsh realities, we must remember there are realities beyond those we see but not beyond our belief. We know that the faith born of love for others and lived out in caring for the sick and sorrowful, the hungry and homeless, the poor and imprisoned is real.

## Longing

The hand will not reach out for what the heart does not long for. ~German proverb



**Ministries Schedule — May 20 & 21**

**Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Mass**

**Rosary Leader:** Susan Soleau  
**Altar Servers:** Adult Volunteers  
**Lector:** Steve Zendegui  
**E.M.H.C.:** Toles, C. & C.; Caskey; Hall; Silva; Benn; Lanctot

**Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Mass**

**Rosary Leader:** Henri Plourde  
**Altar Servers:** Adult Volunteers  
**Lector:** Sam Puleo  
**E.M.H.C.:** Mazur; Plourde; Shoemaker; Ganske; Belinski; Bull

**Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Mass**

**Rosary Leader:** Marilyn Oliu  
**Altar Servers:** Erlendsson, K.; Perez, M.  
**Lector:** Belinda Kramer  
**E.M.H.C.:** DiRisio; Carr; Mussenden; Vazquez; Zawlocki Klosterman

**Sunday - 4:30 p.m. Mass**

**Rosary Leader:** Theresa Redgrave  
**Altar Servers:** Brown Family  
**Lector:** Grace Alfonso  
**E.M.H.C.:** Hazzard; Redgrave; Whitehead; Byerley; Murray; Harper, B. & J.

**Homebound E.M.H.C.**

**First Group:** Stu & Kristin Martin  
**Second Group:** Janet Ganske & Mary Little  
**Third Group:** Paul & Mary Ellen Gabriel

**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.

**Marriage**

Contact 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**

May 7—13, 2017

<b>Sunday May 14</b>	Happy Mother's Day!	
<b>Monday May 15</b>	Emaus Prayer Group	7:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday May 16</b>	Legion of Mary	8:30 a.m.
	Boy Scouts	7:00 p.m.
	Pope John XXIII Prayer Group	7:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday May 17</b>	Dinner for the Needy	4:30 p.m.
	MDS	7:30 p.m.
<b>Thursday May 18</b>	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
	Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.
<b>Saturday May 20</b>	Hispanic Choir Practice	5:00 p.m.

**Ordination of Deacon Xavy Castro**

Deacon Xavy, from St. Francis, will be Ordained to the Priesthood on **Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Jude in St. Petersburg. **Fr. Xavy** will celebrate his first Mass here at St. Francis on **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m.**, with a reception to follow. God Bless Deacon Xavy!



**Happily Married Couples**



Ever wonder why the Church makes such a big deal about Marriage? Jesus performed His 1<sup>st</sup> miracle at the wedding at Cana, even though it wasn't His time. **Maybe the Church cares so much about marriage because Jesus does.** Come find out more about

God's plan for your Joy, Romance and Love in YOUR marriage. You'll be glad you did! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in this area is The next weekend is **July 7-9 at the Franciscan Center.** Space IS limited, so please apply early! For more information about taking a private time away, call 813-270-7832 or check out flwc-wwme.org.

**Help Needed!!**

Our *Helping Hands* Ministry is in need of volunteers! The ministry involves helping those parishioners who need assistance in going to doctor's visits, grocery store or to church. If you have a small amount of free time and would like to help in this invaluable ministry, please call Dottie Mabe at 813-681-2421. Please leave a message if she is unable to take your call.



**MOTHERHOOD**

All mothers are working mothers. ~Anonymous

### *A Mother's Day Prayer*

Loving God, we thank You for the love of the mothers You have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end.

May we see Your loving hand behind them and guiding them. We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience. We ask You to bless them with Your own special love. We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

***Wishing all our mothers a blessed Mother's Day!***



### **Diaper & Wipe Drive**

The *Respect Life Committee of St. Francis* is holding a **Diaper & Wipe Drive** for the entire month of May. All sizes of diapers, especially sizes 3—6, and wipes are welcome! Please deposit your donations in the “Pack-n-Play”, located in the narthex. All donations benefit *LifeCare Network of Brandon*. Please help us Pamper(s) and Hug(gies) the babies! Thank you and God bless!



### **Mary Help of Christians Summer Camp 2017**

Mary Help of Christians Center is getting ready for our Summer Camp. **We are looking for counselors** that will help us run the camp. Our Summer camp is a 6 week day camp starting on June 12<sup>th</sup> and ending on July 21<sup>st</sup>. **Anyone over the age of 16** is encourage to apply to be a camp counselor at: <http://www.mhctampa.org/summer-camp-employment/>. Being a counselor at Mary Help of Christians Summer Camp is a paid position. After the applicant has applied we will follow up with an in-person interview.



### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**



Sunday, **May 21<sup>st</sup>**, the children from our English Faith Formation Classes, and Saturday, **May 27<sup>th</sup>**, the children from our Hispanic Faith Formation Classes, will be receiving their **1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion**. Please keep them

in your prayers as they prepare to receive our Lord Jesus Christ for the very first time.

### **Family Perspective**

Mothers are instruments of Christ’s presence in the home. A mother’s love reveals the attentive, thoughtful, serving, forgiving and concerned side of God’s love. Thanks to all mothers for showing us the tender and loving face of God.

## **St. Francis Chronicle**



**Blue Jay:** Did you know, dear Francis, that this weekend we celebrate Mother’s Day?

**Francis:** No, I did not, Bluey.....in fact I get confused with all the ‘special days’ you folks celebrate throughout the year, for instance a few days ago was Garlic Day!

**Blue Jay:** I know, I know, and you are probably thinking of our ultra-commercial way of life here in the United States....

**Francis:** Indeed I am, Bluey, and I’d love to know who are the individuals that conjure up these ‘days’.

**Blue Jay:** Well, surely you won’t begrudge all the mothers their commemorative day on our calendar, dear saint?

**Francis:** Of course not, my friend, just like our Heavenly Mother, so too our earthly mothers are very special, God bless them all.

**Blue Jay:** And even we birds have an abiding image of our mother-birds, in the nest, feeding us, and teaching us to fly....

**Francis:** How lovely, Bluey, God has instilled this love of our mother in the nature of all His creatures, and it’s surely a sign of His love for each one of us, too.

**Blue Jay:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow, ALLELUIA.

**Parish Ministries**

<b>Altar Servers</b>	
Judy Erendsson.....	244-2853
<b>Church Musicians</b>	
Ramon Martos.....	334-3454
<b>Clothing Pantry</b>	
Contact the Parish Office.....	681-9115
<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	
Susan Soleau.....	689-6914
<b>Faith Formation</b>	
Judy Erendsson.....	244-2853
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	
Pam Caskey.....	651-1165
<b>Helping Hands</b>	
Dottie Mabe.....	681-2421
<b>Hispanic Religious Education</b>	
Sr. Evelia.....	305-9242
<b>Hispanic Baptism Classes</b>	
Maria Elena Parilla.....	657-0218
<b>HomeBound/Nursing Home Visitation</b>	
Janet Ganske.....	943-9928
<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	
Joe Halle.....	334-9526
<b>Lectors</b>	
Alice Murray.....	315-9613
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	
Sharon Belinski.....	951-0146
<b>Respect Life</b>	
Carl Francis Kosierowski.....	546-9440
<b>Rosary Leader</b>	
Dawn Silva.....	649-8957
<b>RCIA</b>	
Fr. Henry Konnoth Sebastian.....	681-9115
<b>Sacristans</b>	
Maria Ocampo.....	653-3011
<b>Scouts</b>	
Kathy & Ted Domey.....	685-8242
<b>Tender Care/Food Pantry</b>	
John Familetti.....	681-9115
<b>Ushers</b>	
Ron Mullen.....	661-5983
<b>Women's Guild</b>	
Sharon Belinski.....	951-0146
<b>Youth Group</b>	
Steve Jarosz.....	404-9658

**Stewardship of Time & Talent Salute**

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

**Stewardship Reflection**

*"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." ~1 Peter 2:7*

Everyone is given unique gifts. Many people are able to recognize their talents and abilities, but there are many people who are unsure of their gifts. This may make them feel worthless. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern how they might use their skills. **No gift is too small or insignificant.**

**Stewardship of Sacrificial Giving**

Sunday, April 30, 2017

Offertory Collection.....	\$8,324.10
Children's & Youth Collection.....	\$70.42
On Line Giving/Offertory.....	\$1,345.00
<b>Total Offertory for this week.....</b>	<b>\$9,739.52</b>
Total Offertory, week of 2016.....	\$9,383.36
<b>Increase.....</b>	<b>\$356.16</b>
Envelopes Issued/Used.....	652/231(35%)
Budgeted Expense This Month.....	\$55,000.00
<b>Total Receipts Month to Date.....</b>	<b>\$43,797.30</b>

*~ Give Generously From Your Heart ~*

**MASS ATTENDANCE**

4:30 p.m.	175	6:30 p.m.	302
8:30 a.m.	149	10:30 a.m.	206
		4:30 p.m.	205

**Total Attendance: 1,037**

*~ For the Week of April 30, 2017 ~*

**POOR BOX DONATIONS**

**\$210.62**

**DINNER MINISTRY BOX DONATIONS**

**\$274.25**

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!!*

**ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK IS:**



**HEROUX**  
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 Pressure Washing  
**Heath Heroux**  
**813-892-1984**

**www.powerwashing.com**

Please patronize the businesses that make our bulletin possible.  
**Thank You!**

**Stewardship by the Book**

*"The one who has faith in Me will do the works I do, and far greater than these,"* Jesus tells His disciples. That's quite an assignment for us as Christian stewards!



WINNING OFFER ANNOUNCED FRIDAY, JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> AT 5 P.M.

MAKE AN OFFER TO WIN A  
\$975 Value

# Week at the Beach

At an Ocean Front Condo on the Gulf of Mexico  
on Treasure Island, Pinellas County,  
Voyager Beach Club  
([www.libertemanagement.com/vacation-rentals](http://www.libertemanagement.com/vacation-rentals))

July 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

One Bedroom with a Queen Size Bed and Sofa Bed (sleeps two)  
Full Kitchen with Microwave  
Swimming Pool and Free On-site Parking  
Completely Furnished—Just bring Food and Bathing Suits!

## How do I make an Offer?

Fill out the Offer Form below and return to the Parish Office **no later than June 2, 2017 at 3 p.m.**  
The highest Offer will be accepted. **The *Winning Offer* will be announced on June 2, 2017 at 5 p.m.**  
Winner need not be present.

***NO REASONABLE OFFER WILL BE REFUSED!!***

✂

Name _____	Offer Amount _____		
Address _____			
STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Phone # (H) _____	(C) _____	(W) _____	
Email _____			