



OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

Boca Grande, Florida

Father Jerome A. Carosella, Pastor

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 181, Boca Grande, Florida 33921

(941) 964 - 2254

Mass Schedule:

Daily (except Saturday)	8:00 A.M.
Saturday Vigil	5:00 P.M.
Sunday	8:00, 9:00 & 10:30 A.M.
Confessions: Saturday	4:15 to 4:45
Online Giving	https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/parish-donations-online/

[donations-online/](https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/parish-donations-online/)

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 16, 2023

2023 CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL-UPDATE

We are pleased and grateful to announce that the Parish has reached, indeed surpassed its CFA goal with pledges totally \$167,223.00, as of April 13th. This represents 174% of our goal and 37% participation of parish families. Each year we send a substantial amount of over-goal to support four Catholic schools in the Diocese; St. Charles Borromeo, Port Charlotte, St. Catherine, Sebring, St. Martha, Sarasota and St. Mary Academy, Sarasota (a special needs school) Many thanks to those who have sent in their contribution. We plan to do the same with CFA over-goal this year also.

PARISH WEBSITE

Our Lady of Mercy Church has launched its own personal website; URL: <http://ourladyofmercy.church/>
Please note that the website includes provision for parish donations to be made online.

SAVE THE DATE - BARBECUE DINNER

On Tuesday, April 18th 5:30 – 7:30 P.M. the parish will have its last dinner of the season; a Barbecue Dinner, featuring pulled pork and chicken. Both the food and its preparation will be provided by parishioners Charles and Stephanie Devlin, aided by a friend, Ronnie Jackson, who specializes in the art of barbecue, then the parish will supply beverages including beer and wine. If you plan to attend, contact Ken Parker preferably at kbparker45@gmail.com. or by telephone at 813-760-8968. A donation of \$20.00 per person will be collected (check or cash) at the door of the Parish Life Center upon arrival.

ECHARISTIC ADORATION

The Friday Eucharistic adoration from 11:00 A.M. until 12 noon will continue through the end of April.

FOOD PANTRY

For our parishioners who are cleaning out their food pantry before going north, please remember the food pantry at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Grove City. They are always in need of non-perishable (and unopened) food items. For those parishioners who are here throughout the year, please take advantage of those BOGO (buy one get one free) items at the local grocery stores. Please place donated items in the plastic bin under the table inside the church.

PEACE BE WITH YOU
(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)

Faith in the Risen One is faith in something that has really taken place... Faith stands on the firm basis of reality that has actually taken place; today too, in the words of Scripture, we can as it were touch the Lord's glorified wounds and say, with Thomas, in gratitude and joy: My Lord and my God! (Jn20:28). One question, however, continually arises at this point. Not everyone saw the Risen Jesus. Why not? Why did he not go in triumph to the Pharisees and Pilate to show them that he was alive and to let them touch his scars?... The Risen One cannot be seen like a piece of wood or stone.

He can only be seen by the person to whom he reveals himself. And he only reveals himself to the one whom he can entrust with a mission. He does not reveal himself to curiosity but to love; love is the indispensable organ if we are to see and apprehend him. This does not mean, however, that the person addressed by the Lord has to be a believer already. Paul was not, nor was Thomas, nor were the Eleven either, for they too were submerged in doubt and sorrow. The only victory that had in mind was the triumph of Jesus in the establishment of the messianic kingdom: the alternative was ruin.

Resurrection such as they now encountered was not something they could imagine, nor was it what they were expecting. It was not a prior faith that created a Resurrection vision: rather it is the reality of the Risen One that creates faith where there was only disbelief or a cramped and grudging faith.

MAY MONTHLY DAY OF PRAYER

The Monthly Day of Prayer continues at off-site locations while **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center** continues to recover from Hurricane Ian. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. with continental breakfast, and includes two conferences, lunch, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, private meditation, and prayer. The day concludes with Mass that ends at 3:15 p.m. For the May sessions, Father Shawn Monahan, OMV, will be the presenter. The topic for the day is "Two Gifts: Anger and Forgiveness," as Father Monahan concludes the series of "Healing our Broken Hearts." The cost is \$40. The May events are Wednesday, May 10, at the Our Lady of Lourdes Education Center, 1301 Center Road, Venice, and Sunday May 14, at Epiphany Cathedral Parish Center, 310 Sarasota St., Venice. The schedule and topic are the same as above. To register, please visit <https://olph-retreat.org/monthly-day-of-prayer>.

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