



# OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

Father Anthony Hewitt, JCL Pastor

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 181, Boca Grande, Florida 33921  
(941) 964 - 2254

Mass Schedule:

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 & 10:30 am
Mon-Fri	8:00 am
First Saturday Anointing	After 5:00 pm vigil
Sacrament of Penance	Call the parish office
Parish website address:	<a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>
Online Giving:	<a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>
Father Anthony email:	<a href="mailto:anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org">anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org</a>

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

Hurricanes Helene and Milton damaged our church, therefore,  
**Daily and Weekend Mass** will continue to be celebrated in the **Parish Life Center (PLC)**.

**Ash Wednesday is March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00 am Mass  
5:00 pm Mass

**Stations of the Cross**  
Fridays in Lent  
8:30 am

Monday-Friday 8:00 am  
Saturday 5:00 pm vigil  
Sunday 9:00 and 10:30 am

**Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) 2025**  
**Our Lady of Mercy Parish Assessment \$123,000**

By keeping our focus on the wholeness of the body of the Church, with Christ as our head, we are invited to take part in the Lord's work by being generous to the Catholic Faith Appeal. Together we can provide the help needed to serve

our brothers and sisters throughout the Diocese who desire to live the Gospel of Jesus by offering them ministries and programs that enrich life, strengthen families, and both inspire and educate future generations of our shared faith.

Today, I am inviting our entire parish community to come together and support our 2025 Catholic Faith Appeal. The CFA sustains the vital ministries and apostolates sponsored by the Diocese of Venice to help those in need, educate our children, form our seminarians, evangelize the Gospel, and much more. The word "Catholic" literally means Universal. This means that each parish church works in union with the Diocese, especially in advancing the mission of the Catholic Church. The crux of that mission is to Teach, Serve, and Sanctify. The CFA supports this great mission. Offering up a gift to the CFA is truly an act of prayer, because every gift helps to support the Good Works done throughout the Diocese - from Boca Grande across to Sebring, from the Everglades to Palmetto, and everywhere in between in our 10-county diocese. All our talents and treasures are gifts given to us by God, and we are called as Catholics to share these gifts in love of God and neighbor and return them with increase to the Lord.

It is in this spirit that Our Lady of Mercy will participate in the Catholic Faith Appeal. Today, Commitment Weekend, is a great opportunity for every family in our parish to participate in the Catholic Faith Appeal. During our Commitment Weekend or "in-pew" we will ask each household present to fill out an envelope and we will collect the envelopes at Mass. I ask each of you to pray about making your own sacrificial gift to the Catholic Faith Appeal.

As you pray about your gift, remember that the Catholic Faith Appeal supports three critical areas of our Catholic Faith: **to boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ; to share the Faith through the celebration of the Sacraments and Catholic formation; and to care for the poor, sick, and vulnerable.**

We are blessed to have a faith-filled and generous parish family. Your sacrifice positively impacts our Southwest Florida Catholic Family. All parishes throughout the diocese will be working towards this mission through the CFA. Thank you for your continued support! May God continue to bless us all.

**Commitment Weekend February 8/9, 2025 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** Today's readings call us to be God's witnesses, by what we see in our world and by what we do in our world. Seeing God's power requires prayer; doing God's will requires honesty and purpose. The Gospel invites each of us to examine our lives and to change accordingly to follow Jesus. Each of us are invited to imitate the mercy of Jesus, serving the needs of those around us and bringing hope to their hearts. Through the many ministries and outreach programs supported by the Catholic Faith Appeal, our gift truly becomes "all things to all" so that new hope is brought daily to the poor and suffering brothers and sisters throughout our ten counties. Our gift to the Catholic Faith Appeal extends our generosity beyond our parish to reach those in our larger Catholic family. Our Lady of Mercy receives full credit for our gift. Once our goal has been reached, the parish receives a portion of the "over goal" gifts for our own essential needs.

**Safe Environment Training (SET)** - As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice Requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and complete online training in SET prior to beginning employment or volunteering. Please visit the Diocese of Venice website. To report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families please call 800-962-2873. Further, if Diocesan personnel or volunteers are involved, notify the diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114.

**Pope Francis Prayer Intention for February 2025 - For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.** Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Diocese of Venice Eucharistic Conference** - In recognition and celebration of the third and final year of the National Eucharistic Revival, and the 2025 Jubilee Year, the Diocese of Venice will host a third Eucharistic Conference. The Diocesan-wide event will take place **Saturday, March 29, 2025**, at Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center in Punta Gorda located at 75 Taylor Street. The theme of the event is "*Becoming Eucharistic Missionaries*," and will include Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice, inspirational talks by Dr. Scott Hahn and Kimberly Hahn, and Spanish breakout sessions featuring Mary Ann Weisinger-Puig and Andrés Arango. The Conference will include opportunities for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession. Registration is now open! Cost is \$35 per person and includes lunch. (Clergy and Consecrated Religious are free admittance, but registration is requested.) All are welcome. Embrace the opportunity to reinforce your belief in and reverence for the Most Holy Eucharistic, become a Eucharistic missionary and celebrate the Jubilee Year! Register at: [dioceseofvenice.regfox](http://dioceseofvenice.regfox)