



# OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

Father Anthony Hewitt, JCL Pastor

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(941) 964 - 2254

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday	8:00 am
Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 & 10:30 am
Tuesday Adoration	10:00 am
First Saturday Anointing	After 5:00 pm vigil
Sacrament of Penance call the parish office for appointment.	
Parish website address:	<a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>
Online Giving:	<a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>

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## CORPUS CHRISTI

JUNE 2, 2024

*Although the Eucharist is celebrated solemnly every day, we deem it fitting that at least once a year it be celebrated with greater honor and a solemn commemoration. Indeed we grasp the other things we commemorate with our spirit and our mind, but this does not mean that we obtain their real presence. On the contrary, in this sacramental commemoration of Christ, even though in a different form, Jesus Christ is present with us in his own substance. While He was about to ascend into Heaven he said "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age".*

*From the papal decree instituting the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Pope Urban IV*

Of the greatest and most valuable treasures one could obtain in this world, nothing is more precious, more sacred, and more valuable than the Most Holy Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Eucharistic Lord. Millions, billions, or even hundreds of trillions of dollars do not come close to the infinite value and transforming power of the Body and Blood of Christ. No amount of earthly wealth can buy happiness, but the Eucharist bestows it freely. No amount of money can purchase Heaven, but the Eucharist transforms you into a member of the Body of Christ Whom you consume, leading you to Heaven. At the end of our lives, when we stand before the Just Judge, we will realize the transforming power of this Gift. Those who adored Him and received Him faithfully in Communion will be forever grateful they did.

Human dignity demands that we show respect to one another, reverencing the presence of God in each person as a living tabernacle of the Lord. However, we do not bow down before God's presence in others, nor do we kneel before them in adoration and worship. In this world, the only One Whom we worship and adore, in hidden yet physical form, is our Lord Who is fully present in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is not only a fraternal meal we share with one another, it's a communion with God Himself that unites us with Him. It is that union with God that also unites us with every other person who is united to God through the sharing of the Most Holy Eucharist.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, spend time pondering the profound mystery of the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. As we kneel before Him, we truly kneel before His throne in Heaven, despite the reality being veiled from our eyes. As we



consume the Blessed Sacrament, we truly consume Christ Himself—Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity—and receive Him into our souls. Though we might not feel Him with our bodily senses, we must allow our spiritual sense of faith to grow so that our love for Him in this Most Precious Gift exponentially increases. Author: *John Paul Thomas*

The **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** takes place the First Saturday after the Vigil Mass.

**Parish CFA goal \$105,000 (\$109,194.58 raised so far).**

While it is good that we have surpassed our goal, I have been praying and talking with the head of our Parish Finance Council and he agrees that we should now go for another goal, household participation. The above number represents only 73 donors from our registered households of 247. We would love to see the number get to at least 150 different donors. This would be an extraordinary sign of unity and participation for the good of our diocesan school community. Five dollars in a CFA envelope or online would add to the donor count. The amount does not matter, it is the participation now that counts.

Again, pray about this and hopefully we can find another 80 parishioners who want to give a little to help a lot. **Please continue to give to the parish through the CFA while you are away so that we can give generously to the schools in our diocese that desperately need our help. We also have online giving and the website for our parish is in the heading of this bulletin. May God continue to bless all of us and our parish.**

#### **Parish Accountant Needed**

Our parish is looking to hire an accountant. It is a part time job (20 hours a week), in a pastoral setting with the added benefit of working for the glory of God and His Church. Contact Fr. Anthony at [anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org](mailto:anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org). Please pray that we fill this important position in the administration of the church. St. Joseph the Worker, Pray for Us.

**Safe Environment Training** - 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 Safe Environment prior to beginning employment or volunteering. Please visit [dioceseofvenice.org](http://dioceseofvenice.org) for further information. 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, also notify the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114.

#### **Prayer for Safety In Hurricane Season**

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster. During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen. [Composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981), Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956-1973), following Hurricane Audrey in 1957]