



OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

Boca Grande, Florida

Father Anthony Hewitt, Pastor

Mailing Address:

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

(941) 964 - 2254

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Friday

8:00 A.M.

Saturday Vigil

5:00 P.M.

Sunday

9:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Parish website address:

ourladyofmercy.church

OnlineGiving:

<https://ourladyofmercy.church>

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Tuesday Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 10:00 am

Stations of the Cross on **Friday** at 4:00 pm

Individual Confessions by appointment. Email the parish at Anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org

Second Sunday of Lent reflection: There is nothing wrong with seeking signs and symbols to remind us of God's presence. For some it might be the beauty of a sunrise over the ocean, for another the sound of a newborn crying, for others the sight of a rainbow arching up ahead. Anything that calls us back to our spiritual core, the divine amid daily life, is a good thing, but often it takes more than that, a crisis, or a loss, to wake us up to the faith that sustains us. We want dazzling lights and parting clouds, but sometimes our aha moments come to us through tears, through pain and through failure. God of all creation, you make all things new. You are at once transfigured and transfiguring. Open our eyes to your presence in our lives. Wake us from the spiritual slumber that keeps you hidden from us. We pray, make us new.

Parish CFA goal \$105,000.

The **CFA** Catholic Faith Appeal Donations in action throughout the Diocese of Venice in Florida. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center and Campo San José Retreat Center both offer workshops, retreats (private and group), and conferences for those who want to enrich their spiritual lives or further develop their faith through sacramental formation and an increased prayer life. These locations offer quiet and solitude, along with the Sacrifice of the Mass, confession, and spiritual direction. Your gift to the 2024 Catholic Faith Appeal supports these two retreat locations.

UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE-THE-DATE:

- March 1st - Fish Fry – Parish Life Center
- March 4th - Boca Grande Preschool – Beach Ball – Gasparilla Inn Beach Club
- April 12th – Barbecue – Parish Life Center

Parish Dinners – A Lenten Fish Fry is scheduled for Friday March 1st and a BBQ dinner is scheduled for April 12th. All parishioners are invited. Dinners will be from 5 to 7 PM in the Parish Life Center and will be catered by JT Turner. Water and sodas will be provided, BYOB. The cost will be \$45/person, cash or check accepted. Seating is limited to 120 per event and tickets will be available in advance ONLY. Tickets will be sold after the masses each Sunday prior to the event, and at the rectory on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or you can contact Sandy Hemm at 937-418-1881 or sandyhemm@yahoo.com. Volunteers needed for night of the event and to provide cookies/bars. To volunteer please contact Angela Steffan 941-855-1277 or aksteffan@gmail.com.

DIocese OF Venice EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE

All are invited to attend the Diocese of Venice Eucharistic Conference on Saturday, March 16, at Bishop Verot Catholic High School, 5598 Sunrise Drive, Fort Myers. This effort, in support of the Church's National Eucharistic Revival to place an emphasis on the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist, will be an all-day event of faith and fellowship, featuring inspirational Catholic speakers, including nationally acclaimed Catholic speaker and author Steven Ray, Crystalina Evert, Kathia Aranga, Father Elvis Gonzalez, and Tim Glemkowski. English and Spanish sessions will be offered.

The day will include the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, as well as adoration, and confessions. Promotion of this important Diocesan Eucharistic event is encouraged. For more information, please contact Jim Gontis at gontis@dioceseofvenice.org. To register go to diocesseofvenice.org/eu Registration deadline is March 12.

PRAY TO DEFEAT FLORIDA'S ABORTION AMENDMENT

The political committee behind a proposed constitutional amendment that would legalize abortion up until birth in Florida has surpassed the petition signature requirement for placement on the November 2024 ballot. For ballot placement to be confirmed, the amendment language must be reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court to ensure it is clear and limited to a single subject. In her brief to the Court, the attorney general urged the justices to reject the proposal, identifying several terms in the amendment language that are not clearly defined and could mislead voters.

The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops (FCCB) also filed a legal brief in opposition to the amendment. The FCCB's brief argued that the proposed ballot title is misleading. The title states that the amendment "limits" government interference with abortion when the text of the amendment itself actually prohibits all regulation before viability.

The ballot language also fails to advise voters that the amendment would largely prohibit the state's oversight of abortion clinics and provide fair notice of its impact on existing legal protections for women and children.

FOOD PANTRY

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. Please place donated items in the plastic bin under the table inside the church. To give you some helpful hints, they are in need of Canned Tuna, Peanut Butter, and Canned Fruit. Thank you for your continuous support.