



OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

Boca Grande, Florida

Father Jerome A. Carosella, Pastor

Mailing Address:

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(941) 964 - 2254

Mass Schedule:

Daily (except Saturday)	8:00 A.M.
Saturday Vigil	5:00 P.M.
Sunday	9:00 & 10:30 A.M.
Confessions: Saturday	4:15 to 4:45

Online Giving <https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/parish-donations-online/>

SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

JUNE 11, 2023

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Please join us for a celebration next Sunday, June 18th from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Parish Life Center to honor Father Carosella for his 35 years of dedication to our parish community. If you wish to attend, please send an email to Ken Parker at kbparker45@gmail.com or call 813-760-8968. Drinks will be provided, please bring an appetizer for 8 to share. There will be a parish wide celebration in the fall for Father's 60th ordination anniversary. Those that are not in town for the retirement celebration will have a chance to visit with him and to honor him at that time.

BEGINNING SEQUENCE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD

(Composed by St. Thomas Aquinas, 1264)

Sion, lift thy voice, and sing;
Praise thy Saviour and thy King;
Praise with hymns thy Shepherd true:
Strive thy best to praise Him well;
Yet doth He all praise excel;
None can ever reach His due.

See to-day before us laid
The living and life-giving Bread!
Theme for praise and joy profound!
The same which at the sacred board
Was, by our Incarnate Lord,
Giv'n to his Apostles round.

Let the praise be loud and high;
Sweet and tranquil be the joy
Felt to-day in every breast;
On this Festival divine,
Which records the origin
Of the glorious Eucharist.

On this Table of the King,
Our new Paschal offering
Brings to end the olden rite;
Here, for empty shadows fled,
Is Reality instead;
Here, instead of darkness, Light.

His own act, at supper seated,
Christ ordain'd to be repeated,
In His Memory divine;
Wherefore now, with adoration,
We the Host of our salvation
Consecrate from bread and wine.

Hear what holy Church maintaineth,
That the bread its substance changeth
Into Flesh, the wine to Blood.
Doth it pass thy comprehending?
Faith, the law of sight transcending,
Leaps to things not understood.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE EUCHARIST

In 1625 the Archduchess Isabella Clara Eugenia of Spain commissioned Flemish artist Peter Paul Rubens to paint a series of paintings on the theme: *The Triumph of the Eucharist*. It was beauty (art) at the service of worship and doctrine. The series was in celebration of Catholic teaching and faith about the Eucharist that was being rejected by the Protestant Reformers at that time who denied the real, substantial presents of Christ in the Eucharist and with it the rejection of the Mass and the priesthood. What was given to us by Jesus at the Last Supper as the summit and source of Christian unity and worship suddenly became the very thing that destroyed that unity and separated Christians from one another.

We are fortunate that some of these painting by Rubens in his series on the Eucharist are right in our back yard, so to speak. Five of these magnificent and huge paintings (16 X 24 feet) are the crown and centerpiece of the Ringling Museum in Sarasota. These oil on canvas paintings portray: The Meeting of Abraham and Melchizedek, The Gathering of the Manna in the Desert, The Four Evangelists, The Defenders of the Eucharist, and The Triumph of Divine Love. Well worth the price of admission (free on Mondays) just to see the magnificent works of art in celebration of the Eucharist. The docents do a wonderful job in explaining the paintings.

