



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>

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 10, 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

Fourth Sunday of Lent reflection: Sundays are never days of penance in the Catholic tradition, even in Lent, but always joyful celebrations of our salvation. What has God rescued us from this week that gives us cause for joy? How has God begun to refashion us this Lent? You so loved your people, Lord, that you sent us your only begotten son to lead us out of our exile and into the joyful light of your kingdom. Continue to refashion our hearts, so that we might be drawn out of the darkness.

Parish CFA goal \$105,000.

The **CFA** Catholic Faith Appeal Donations in action throughout the Diocese of Venice in Florida. The Catholic Faith Appeal supports Parishes and Missions located in financially stressed areas. These places of worship enable our Faith to be nourished, strengthened, and expressed in word and deed. Not only do these faith communities nourish the soul, but the body as well. The CFA allows the Parishes and missions in needy areas the opportunity to provide assistance through food pantries, with these good offerings often being donated by Parishioners from other Parishes.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

February 23, 2024

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Diocese of Venice will soon take up the yearly collection in support of **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**. During the Season of Lent, it is time to consider the Gospel's call to serve the poor and vulnerable.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection funds Catholic agencies whose programs help families suffering from war, famine, extreme poverty, and environmental destruction. CRS programs that focus on environmental destruction include rehabilitating water systems, building water access points, and delivering feed supplements for livestock affected by lack of water and pasture. In addition, families are taught how food hygiene and gardening skills will grow nutrient-rich foods year-round and lower the risk of food borne diseases.

Millions of people living in places affected by soil depletion and drought have benefited from these life-giving programs.

The CRS Collection in the Diocese of Venice will take place the weekend of **March 9 and 10, 2024**. Please consider generously supporting this meaningful and vital collection. Your contribution can have a lifesaving, positive impact on the lives of people affected by natural disaster and poverty throughout the world. Won't you help?

I take this opportunity to assure you and your family of my continued consideration as well as my prayers during this Lenten Season. Thank you for the good that you do for others!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

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.

JOB OPENING AT OUR LADY OF MERCY

Our Lady of Mercy is looking to hire a part-time experienced individual with an accounting background as Accounting Assistant. This position serves an Accounting Assistant under the direction of the Pastor. This position will handle various aspects of recordkeeping and administrative work both financial and non-financial. A degree in Accounting or Business is preferred and / or possess comparable experience of at least 5 yrs.

You can visit the Diocese's website: dioceseofvenice.org > click the "employment" tab at very bottom of page and that takes you out to the career site. Click on "City" Boca Grande. The website will give you full details of overview, description, and requirements.

You may also send resume, and cover letter with salary objective to Rev Anthony Hewitt at anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org and reference "Accounting Assistant" or mail directly to Rev. Anthony Hewitt, Post Office Box 181, Boca Grande, FL 3392.

BROWN SCAPULAR ENROLLMENT

Queen of the Holy Rosary Secular Discalced Carmelite community, which meets at Sacred Heart Church in Punta Gorda is inviting people to join us at **St. Francis of Assisi Church on Friday March 15th** after the 8:15 AM Mass. The enrollment will start at 9:00, if you will not be able to be there for mass.

We will have a brief presentation about our Carmelite community and spirituality before the enrollment.

We are a community of contemplative lay men and women who form an integral part of the Carmelite family and try to live out the Carmelite way of life in the ordinary circumstances of our life. If you have any questions please contact, Mike Donovan Retiredvenice@yahoo.com

HOLY CHRISM MASS – EPIPHANY CATHEDRAL

The Chrism Mass, which takes place during Holy Week every year, will be held at 10:30 a.m., **Tuesday, March 26** at Epiphany Cathedral, 350 Tampa Ave. W., in Venice. During this Mass, Bishop Frank J. Dewane will bless the Holy Oils which are used in the administration of the Sacraments at each parish throughout the year. Priests and Deacons celebrating 25 and 50 years of Ordination are recognized at this Mass. **Fr. Anthony, our Pastor, will be celebrating his 25th year of ordination.** All are encouraged to attend in support of our clergy and to participate in this important Holy Week celebration.

UPCOMING EVENT – SAVE-THE-DATE:

- April 12th – Barbecue – Parish Life Center

Parish Dinner – The last parish dinner for the season is a BBQ dinner 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.

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, Vegetables and Fruit. Thank you for your continuous support.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord of all, in this time of strife and suffering, we come before you with heavy hearts, seeking your divine intervention. We lift up to you the victims of the Holy Land conflict, asking for your mercy and healing touch.

Prince of Peace, grant solace to those who are in pain, strength to those who are weary and hope to those who are in despair. Let your guiding light shine upon all, that they may find a path to reconciliation and understanding.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, wrap your mantle of love around those who are suffering, and intercede for them before your Son. May your gentle compassion be a source of comfort and consolation.

We implore you, O God, to inspire leaders and all involved to seek avenues of peace and dialogue. Soften hearts that are hardened by hatred and division and instill in them a desire for unity and harmony.

St. Francis of Assisi, patron of peace, pray for us. Help us to be instruments of your peace in this troubled world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.