

# **OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH**

## Boca Grande, Florida

Father Jerome A. Carosella, Pastor Mailing Address:

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

(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/

#### PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 28, 2023

#### **BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST**

Congratulation to Ricardo and Amanda Garcia on the baptism of their infant son, Landon Michael who was baptized here on May 27<sup>th.</sup> Amanda and Ricardo were married here at Our Lady of Mercy Church where Amanda's parents Deidre and Brian Clingen are parishioners.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Ten years ago, in compliance with Canon Law that obliges a pastor to submit his resignation to the bishop upon reaching his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, I duly submitted my letter of resignation to Bishop Dewane and added that since I was in reasonably good health, I would be pleased to continue as pastor "a while longer" if he wished me to do so.

I now approach my 85<sup>th</sup> year of age and my 35<sup>th</sup> year as pastor and "a while longer" has become 10 years. I am grateful to Bishop Dewane for making this possible and grateful to you for putting up with me 10 years more.

Recently, I submitted my second letter of resignation to the bishop and I indicated that this time I really meant it. This time the bishop accepted my resignation. On May 19<sup>th</sup> the Chairman of the Priest Personnel Board notified the priests of the Diocese and invited them to submit their application for the pastorate of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, should they be interested in this assignment. Applications were to be sent by May 25<sup>th</sup>. Upon receipt of these applications, the bishop will make his decision and appoint the new pastor, at the same time designating the date when his appointment will go into effect. Since my resignation is effective June 30th, I expect that the new appointment will go into effect the same day. Whoever the priest may be, he will find here parishioners who are dedicated members of the Church and a community that is very welcoming. These 35 years of my ministry here have been a great blessing to me.

While I am retiring as Pastor, I am, of course, not retiring from the Priesthood. I plan to remain in the area and, on occasion, be of assistance when a pastor in the area might need help with Sunday mass or in other ways.

A heartfelt thank you to all of you and may God bless you always, Fr. Carosella