



SAINT MARY MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi ✨ The law of prayer is the law of belief is the law of life!

THE CHURCH DEDICATES THE MONTH OF AUGUST TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BLESSED MOTHER!

AUGUST 2 ✓ 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: IS. 55:1-3 ✨ PS. 145:8-9,15-18 ✨ RM 8:35, 37-39 ✨ MT. 14:13-21



Speaker: Most Rev. Erik Fohlmeyer

Saturday, August 22
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Holy Faith Catholic Church, Gainesville

Saturday, September 19
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Orange Park



“Assemble on the Lord’s Day, and break bread and offer the Eucharist; but first make confession of your faults, so that your sacrifice may be a pure one. Anyone who has a difference with his fellow is not to take part with you until he has been reconciled, so as to avoid any profanation of your sacrifice. For this is the offering of which the Lord has said, ‘Everywhere and always bring me a sacrifice that is undefiled, for I am a great king, says the Lord, and my name is the wonder of nations’” *FROM THE DIDACHE (A.D. 70)*

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty! (PSALM 84:1)

Our dedicated church cleaning crew works incredibly hard, but they are currently short-handed and greatly need your help! We have been sharing this announcement for several weeks, but sadly, Sandy has not received any calls 904-259-9503 or offers for help.

Kindly consider stepping up. Even volunteering just once a month makes a massive difference!

Bake and Craft Sale

There will be a bake sale and craft fair on August 8 and 9 to help fund our altar bread, wine, and candle oil expenses. Please bring your delicious treats or beautiful craft items to the vestibule before Mass on either day. Thank you very much!

CONTACT MS. KAREN DOUGHERTY AT K.DOUGHERTY200@COMCAST.NET

SOUP AND SESSION: EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE LEARNING CENTER @ 6:15 PM

BASIC MINIMUM NEEDED PER WEEK \$ 4,000.00

LAST WEEK OFFERTORY

IN CHURCH \$ 1,811 & ONLINE \$395.00

TOTAL: 2,206.00



HALL RENOVATION (REQUIRED) \$ 1,500,000

RAISED SO FAR \$ 713,966

IN CHURCH \$ 180 & ONLINE \$ 30

BALANCE TO BE RAISED \$ 785,824

BINGO: 6 PM ♡ IN THE PARISH HALL ♡ FRIDAYS! WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN IT. KINDLY HELP

✚. **HAVE YOU A PRAYER REQUEST?** Contact Ms. Susie Taylor, 9049454327. Your request will be added to the prayer-request-text-line, and our prayer team will pray for your requests!

✚. **PRAY FOR:** Geraldine Lombard, Maria Rogers, Brendan Bonner, Nancy Carrasquillo, Beth Spreitzer, Trish Thorpe, Asia Paige, Abby Keller, Angelo Tauro, Mary Roberts, Rose Johnson, John Payne, Monte Willey, Julie, Jim & Bonnie Palleschi, Mary Baeb, Theresa Taylor, Kathy Johnson, Joan Fiore, Joanie McCarthy, Stacie Adams, Karen & Richard Dolan, Daniel Harrigan, Allan Lahoski, Ann Smith, Bob Rozumek, Christy Long, Cindy Schillig, Dawn Phillips, Diana Rumpt, Sarah Zarrella, Edward Robinson, Gladys Page, Janis Price, Jeannie Hendrix, Joanne Hodges, John Singleton, Judy Gentile, M. Akridge, Marge Keller, Marianne Glass, Mary Ford, Mary Knoche, Mifuk Huh, Pat Doyle, Paul Boehnke, Sandra Schwarz, Xavier Smith, Schaidy Parme, James Nelson, Mary Pregler, John Norton, Alex Robinson.

✚. **JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM:** CONTACT MS. KAREN DOUGHERTY AT K.DOUGHERTY200@COMCAST.NET

✓. **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Meet on the first Sunday of the month. We encourage all men of the parish to attend. Contact: STEVE HUDSON ON 9049932512 AND SKHUDSON7@GMAIL.COM

✓. **INTERESTED IN PRISON MINISTRY?** PLEASE CONTACT JOHN CHICK AT JCHICK@DOS AFL.COM

CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES (CCD) FOR CHILDREN

CLASSES ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS BEFORE HOLY MASS FROM 8:45 AM TO 9:45 AM IN THE LEARNING CENTER

CONTACT: PEG DECURTINS (PEGDECURTINS@NEFCOM.NET) or MICHAEL MCKENDREE (904) 400-9250

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

CLASSES ARE HELD ON SUNDAYS AFTER HOLY MASS FROM 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM IN THE LEARNING CENTER

CONTACT: PEG DECURTINS (PEGDECURTINS@NEFCOM.NET)

AD JESUM PER MARIAM : TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

ORATORY: A MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN

WEDNESDAYS 5:15 PM-7.45 PM) HOLY MASS 5.30 PM;

CONSCIENCE-CHARACTER 6.15 PM; FUN ACTIVITY 6.45—7:30 PM; DINNER/REFRESHMENTS 7:35 PM

CONTACT: CATHERINE CHICK (904) 293-3827 (CHICKCA@GMAIL.COM)

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY (WWW.RESPECTLIFE.ORG)

CONTACT: TRUDY HUDSON (904) 614-5125 (TRUDYHUDSON7@GMAIL.COM)

ADORATION ★ CHAPLET ★ ROSARY

4:30 PM SATURDAY & 9:30 AM SUNDAY

4:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

8:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY



HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST

5:00 PM SATURDAY & 10 AM SUNDAY

5:30 PM MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY

FRIDAYS: ADORATION 9 AM TO 5:25 PM ☞ HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST 5:30 PM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION ☞ ADORATION 5:00 TO 5.45 PM & HOLY MASS 6 PM

ANONING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION: ANYTIME UPON REQUEST

CONFESSION ☞ 45 MINUTES BEFORE HOLY MASS & BY APPOINTMENT

THE POPE'S AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION: PRAY FOR URBAN EVANGELIZATION

AUG.01	18 TH SUNDAY	✠. JUANELLE COMBS BENNETT ✠. KENNETH BAIER
AUG.02	IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. TONY & DONNA DECURTINS ✠. MICHAEL BAIER
AUG.03	MON. OF 18 TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. PETER & HELENE MACKEY ✠. JOEL & JULIA
AUG.04	TUE. ST. JEAN-MARIE BAPTISTE VIANNEY, <i>Mem.</i>	✠. BILLY & BETTY GRIMES ✠. PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE
AUG.05	WED. DEDICATION OF ST. MARY MAJOR, FEAST	✠. HERMAN, DOROTHY, AL & AGNES DILLMAN
AUG.06	THU. FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION	✠. MICHAEL JOHNSON ✠. BISHOP ESTEVEZ
AUG.07	FRI. OF 18 TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME	✠. MARY BANDA ✠. CLARE GIDDENS



Thank you very much to Cathy Hooper for flowers this weekend! Donations for flowers are greatly appreciated! Kindly sign up for any available weekend you want in the note book in the hallway, and give \$70-75 (cash), in the envelope provided, to Linda Voeltz shortly before your designated dates. Thank you!!

LECTORS

MAY GOD BLESS US ALL EVERYONE!

ALTAR SERVERS

K. & M. DOUGHERTY & B. PALLESCHI	SAT: AUG.01	B. LANCHO
M. MCKENDREE, K. WHITE & C. CHICK	SUN: AUG.02	A. MCKENDREE, A. WHITE & ABEL CATES
H. WILLIAMS, P. DECURTINS & J. MACKEY	SAT: AUG. 08	H. WILLIAMS
M. WILLEY, J. CHICK SR. & J. JOHNSON	SUN: AUG. 09	J. SMITH, D. CHICK & C. HUDSON

The Diocese of St. Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deal with all allegations in a prompt, confidential, and thorough manner. TO REPORT ABUSE, call the police or the Department of Children and Families at (800) 962-2873 or call the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (904) 208-6979 or email inquiries@dosafl.com. To report abuse by a bishop, call (800) 276-1562 or visit www.reportbishopabuse.org

Reverence and Respect in our church

The interior of our church is a *Sanctuary of the Divine Presence*—a sacred space *dedicated exclusively to worship, prayer, and the sacraments*. Upon encountering God in what seemed a random place, Jacob recognized this absolute reality and exclaimed: *“How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven”* (Genesis 28:17). God Himself commands: *“You must keep My Sabbaths and have reverence for My sanctuary. I am the LORD”* (Leviticus 19:30). Hence, the obligation to remain prayerful and reverent in this sacred place is not a matter of subjective belief; it is not a matter subject to personal opinions, mood changes, or emotional swings. It rests entirely on the objective reality of God’s True Presence in the sanctuary. Shifting human emotions do not alter this standard. Therefore, seriously examine how you conduct yourself in this sanctuary. Scripture warns us with terrifying clarity: *“Do not be deceived; God is not mocked”* (Galatians 6:7). *Our actions here have eternal consequences*. Therefore, to safeguard the holiness of this sanctuary and our souls, all parishioners and visitors are asked to strictly observe these vital principles rooted in the Sacred Catholic Scripture and Tradition:

✠. ✠. **SACRED SILENCE:** God commands us: *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10). Habakkuk reminds us, *“The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him”* (Habakkuk 2:20). Zephaniah declares, *“Be silent before the Lord God!”* (Zephaniah 1:7). St. John Chrysostom warns: *“When you are before the altar where Christ reposes... believe that there are troops of angels standing by you and trembling with respect... Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence.”* St. Isaac of Syria counsels, *“Let us love silence till the world is made to die in our hearts.”* ✠. Therefore: Maintain prayerful silence and quiet before, during, and after Holy Mass. Take all your cell phone use and all your conversations outside to the vestibule or parking lot.

✠. ✠. **PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES:** We must always remember that a Catholic church is a uniquely sacred space. *God Himself is truly and substantially present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, and we join our voices with the angels and saints who worship Him in hidden glory*. Because of this profound reality, our behavior in the pews should always be of prayerful reverence, awe, and *focus on the Lord*. While physical gestures like back rubs, shoulder massages, or leaning on others are often blameless expressions of affection among adult friends and loved ones, they certainly do not belong at Holy Mass and in the interiors of the church. They distract others from prayer and detract from the solemnity of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. ✠. Therefore: Let our *focus be on the Lord*, and let us help one another to *encounter the Living God, and to be in His loving kindness*.