

# St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church

12001 69th Street East, Parrish, FL 34219

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

WWW.SfxcParrish.com

Home@SfxcParrish.com

941.776.9097

OFFICE HOURS

M, T, Th, F 9:00am-3:00pm

Closed Wednesday



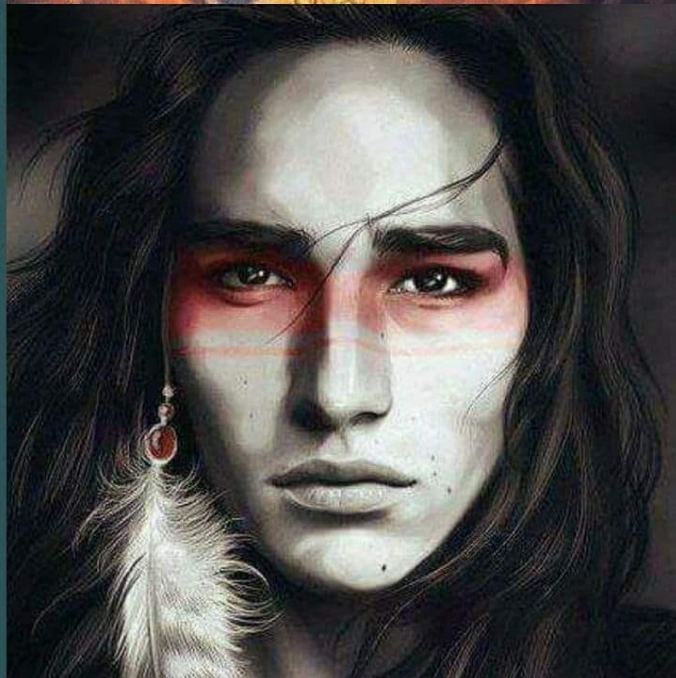
I AM TRULY YOUR  
COMPASSIONATE MOTHER:  
YOUR MOTHER AND THE  
MOTHER TO ALL WHO  
DWELL IN THIS LAND AND TO  
ALL OTHER NATIONS AND  
PEOPLES WHO LOVE ME AND  
CALL AND ENTREAT ME.

I AM THE  
MOTHER OF ALL  
WHO SEEK ME  
AND PLACE THEIR  
TRUST IN ME.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

*Taken from Paul Badde's book,  
Maria of Guadalupe*



## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM**

**Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM**

**Daily Mass: M, T, TH, F 8:30 AM**

**Wednesday 6:00 PM**

Music Director and Rel. Ed. Coordinator:  
David Collins

## PARISH STAFF

Administrator: Fr. Joseph Gates  
Operations Manager: Richard Lind  
Sacramental Coordinator: Chris Malone  
Liturgy Coordinator: Lydia Herrera  
Maintenance & IT: Ernie Nolder  
Maintenance: Roger Rodriguez  
Data Entry: Tom Moline

December 8, 2019

# Mass Intentions



## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Is11:1-10

Psalms: 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17

Second Reading: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel Reading: Mt 3:1-12

### Devotions:

Tuesday 9:00am Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 9:00am St. Frances Cabrini Novena

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**  
After Mass M, T, Th, F with the Rosary

Friday 9:00am—2:30pm



**Parish Membership:** Through baptism we become God's sons and daughters, and brothers and sisters to each other in Christ.

Every family in the parish is encouraged to properly register and receive numbered offertory envelopes.

**Registration forms for permanent members can be obtained by visiting the Parish Office during office hours.** We appreciate you taking the time to update your parishioner information.

Please email us [Secsfxc@verizon.net](mailto:Secsfxc@verizon.net) or call the office at 941-776 -9097 with any updates.

**Night Emergencies: 941.201.9741**

**Monday December 9**  
8:30 + Jim Vera  
Req. By: Kay Grybash

**Tuesday December 10**  
8:30am +Esmeralda Gonzales  
Req. By: Lydia

**Wednesday December 11**  
6:00 pm +Therese Dumais  
Req. By: Grandson, Jackson

**Thursday December 12**  
8:30am +Al Grybash  
Req. By: Kay

**Friday December 13**  
8:30am +Poor Souls  
Req. By: Kay

**Saturday December 14**  
4:00pm +Casey Venhuizen  
Req. By: Loving Family

**Sunday December 15**  
8:00am +John Steven Kinney  
Req. By: Ellen Hicks  
10:30am +Parishioners

### SACRAMENTS

**Baptism:** For registered and active parishioners: Please contact the Church Office. Baptism instruction is required for Parents.

**Reconciliation (Confessions)**  
Saturdays 3:00-3:45 PM  
Or by Appointment

**Weddings:** For registered and active parishioners: must be arranged with the pastor at least 6 months before the date desired. Please contact the Church Office for more details.

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

### Readings for the Week

Monday Immaculate Conception  
Gn3:9-15,20 Ps98:1-4 Eph1:3-6,11-12  
Lk1:26-38

Tuesday

Is40:1-11 Ps96:1-3,10-13 Mt18:12-14

Wednesday St. Domasus I

Is40:25-31 Ps103:1-4,8,10 Mt11:28-30

Thursday Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec2:14-17 Psjd13:18bc19 Lk1:26-38

Friday St. Lucy

Is48:17-19 Ps1:1-4,6 Mt11:16-19

### OFFERTORY

Date	Amount	Attendance
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Dec.1,2019	\$10,503.58	1178
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Dec.2,2018	\$9,651.23	1071
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### CFA

Collected	\$121,243.30
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Goal	\$164,000.00
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## *Advent Penance Service*

**St. Thomas Moore, Saarasota: Dec. 10— 5:00pm**

**Our Lady of the Angels, Lakewood Ranch: Dec. 11— 6:00pm**

**St. Joseph, Bradenton: Dec. 12— 5:30pm**

**St. Frances Cabrini, Parrish: Dec. 16— 5:30**

**Sts. Peter and Paul, Bradenton: Dec. 18— 5:30pm**

**St. Martha's Sarasota: Dec. 23 & 24 — 9:00am —7:00pm**



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS®**

Our next Business Meeting will be held at the Mother Cabrini Center on December 10th starting at 7:30pm.

The next blood drive will be Sunday, December 29th from 8:30am – 1pm. Please consider giving the gift of life.

All male parishioners 18 years or older and a practical member of the Catholic Church are invited to join our Order

email [grandknight12155@aol.com](mailto:grandknight12155@aol.com) for more information.

**Council of Catholic Women**

All women of the parish are invited to come to the CCW meeting and luncheon today, Sunday, December 8 at 11:30 a.m. for the rosary. The meeting & luncheon is from 12Noon till 2:p.m.

The CCW will also be holding a bake sale after all week-end Mass today Dec.7/8 and next weekend Dec.14/15.

Proceeds will go towards the Youth Groups trip to Washington.

# Learning and Understanding Our Faith

## 4 Literally Awesome Facts About Our Lady of Guadalupe: Matthew Sewell

The great Bill Engvall once lamented that we use the word “awesome” way too casually. He said, “Webster’s dictionary defines awesome as “*anything that leaves you in awe and wonder.*” Like winning the lottery ... twice. That would be awesome. Getting a phone call from the IRS saying you’ve been audited and *they owe you \$50,000.* That would be awesome.”

Know what else would be awesome?

Seeing an apparition of Mary, then having her grow roses in the middle of winter to prove it to the archbishop, then converting 9 million Aztecs within seven years.

That would be....wait...that was awesome.

On December 12 of each year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, marking the day when, in 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared in Mexico to a 57-year old peasant named Juan Diego. According to the earliest reliable account of the story, Juan Diego was walking near what is now Mexico City (Tepeyac Hill) when he came upon an apparition of a “Maiden” who he soon came to recognize as the Virgin Mary. In trying to convince the archbishop of what he had seen, Juan Diego eventually was asked for a sign to prove what he had seen.

Upon returning to Mary and sharing this with her, Juan Diego was instructed to climb to the top of the hill to gather flowers to bring back to the bishop. Reaching the crest of the hill, Juan Diego found Castilian roses, which were neither in season nor native to the region. The Blessed Mother arranged the flowers herself in Juan’s tilma (a burlap-type cloak) and instructed him to open the cloak only upon return to the bishop.

When Juan Diego arrived back at the bishop’s residence and opened his cloak, the flowers fell to the floor and left on the surface of the tilma was the image that’s come to be known as “Our Lady of Guadalupe”.

What happened next is history. The image became the wellspring of a conversion movement the likes of which have rarely been seen before or since. The fact that the Virgin Mother not only spoke to Juan Diego in his native language, but appeared to be wearing the dress of an Aztec princess sparked millions of conversions to the Catholic faith in just under seven years. The shrine that was subsequently built on the spot, where the original tilma can still be seen, remains one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in the world.

But this post isn’t about the whole apparition story so much as it is about the tilma, Juan Diego’s cloak, on which the image of the Blessed Mother was imprinted. In the centuries following the event, some amazing and unexplainable qualities have been discovered about it.

### Here’s four (literally) awesome facts about the tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe:

#### 1. It has qualities that are humanly impossible to replicate.

Made primarily of cactus fibers, a tilma was typically of very poor quality and had a rough surface, making it difficult enough to wear, much less to paint a lasting image on it. Nevertheless, the image remains, and scientists who have studied the image insist there was no technique used beforehand to treat the surface. The surface bearing the image is reportedly like silk to the touch, while the unused portion of the tilma remains coarse.

What’s more, experts in infrared photography, studying the tilma in the late 1970s, determined that there were no brush strokes (none!), as if the image was slapped onto the surface all at once, and it was discovered by Dr. Phillip Callahan, a biophysicist at the University of Florida, that the difference of appearance with its texturing and coloration of Our Lady’s skin up close compared to a small distance away is impossible to recreate:

*Such a technique would be an impossible accomplishment in human hands. It often occurs in nature, however, in the coloring of bird feathers and butterfly scales, and on the elytra of brightly colored beetles ... By slowly backing away from the painting, to a distance where the pigment and surface sculpturing blend together, the overwhelming beauty of the olive-colored Madonna emerges as if by magic.*

This, along with an iridescent quality of slightly changing colors depending on the angle at which a person looks and the fact that the coloration in the image was determined to have no animal or mineral elements (synthetic colorings didn’t exist in 1531), provide a lot of seemingly unanswerable questions.

That’s awesome.

#### 2. People say it’s just a painting, yet the tilma has outlived them all, in time and in quality.

One of the first things skeptics say about the image is that it somehow has to be a forgery or a fraud, but every time an attempt has been made to replicate the image, the original never seems to fade, while its duplicates have deteriorated over a short time. Miguel Cabrera, an artist in the mid-18th Century who produced three of the best known copies (one for the archbishop, one for the Pope, one for himself for later copies) once wrote about the difficulty of recreating the image even on the best surfaces:



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*I believe that the most talented and careful painter, if he sets himself to copy this Sacred Image on a canvas of this poor quality, without using sizing, and attempting to imitate the four media employed, would at last after great and wearisome travail, admit that he had not succeeded. And this can be clearly verified in the numerous copies that have been made with the benefit of varnish, on the most carefully prepared canvases, and using only one medium, oil, which offers the greatest facility;*

Dr. Adolfo Orozco, a researcher and physicist at the National University of Mexico, spoke in 2009 about the remarkable preservation of the tilma compared to its numerous copies. One copy created in 1789 was painted on a similar surface with the best techniques available at the time, then encased in glass and stored next to the tilma. It looked beautiful when painted, but not eight years passed before the hot & humid climate of Mexico caused the copy to be discarded due to faded colors and fraying, broken threads.

However, Dr. Orozco said, no scientific explanation is possible for the fact that, "the original Tilma was exposed for approximately 116 years without any kind of protection, receiving all the infrared and ultraviolet radiation from the tens of thousands of candles near it and exposed to the humid and salty air around the temple."

That's awesome.

### **3. The tilma has shown characteristics startlingly like a living human body.**

This is where it gets *real* crazy. In 1979, when Dr. Callahan was analyzing the tilma using infrared technology, he apparently also discovered that the tilma maintains a constant temperature of 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit (36.6-37 deg. Celsius), the same as that of a living person.

When Dr. Carlos Fernandez de Castillo, a Mexican gynecologist, examined the tilma, he first noticed a four-petaled flower over what was Mary's womb. The flower, to the Aztecs, was called the *Nahui Ollin* and was the symbol of the sun, as well as a symbol of plenitude. Upon further examination, Dr. Castillo concluded that the dimensions of Our Lady's body in the image were that of an expectant mother due quite soon (Dec. 9, the day of the unveiling, is barely two weeks from Christmas...).

Finally, one of the most common attributions and reported discoveries lie with the Virgin's eyes in the image. When Dr. Jose Alte Tonsmann, a Peruvian ophthalmologist, conducted a study, one of his tests involved examining the eyes at 2,500 times magnification. With the images of her magnified eyes, the scientist was reportedly able to identify as many as 13 individuals in both eyes at different proportions, just as the human eye would reflect an image. It appeared to be a snapshot of the very moment Juan Diego unfurled his tilma before the archbishop.

That's awesome.

### **4. It appears to be virtually indestructible.**

Two distinct events have happened involving the tilma over the centuries, one occurring in 1785 and the other in 1921.

In 1785, a worker was cleaning the glass encasement of the image when he accidentally spilled 50% nitric acid solvent onto a large portion of the image itself. The image and the rest of the tilma, which should have been eaten away almost instantly by the spill, reportedly self-restored over the ensuing 30 days, and remains unscathed to this day aside from small stains on the parts not bearing the image.

In 1921, an anti-clerical activist hid a bomb containing 29 sticks of dynamite in a pot of roses and placed it before the image inside the Basilica at Guadalupe. When the bomb exploded, most everything from the marble altar rail & floor just feet away from the blast, to windows 150 meters away were broken...yet the image and the glass surrounding it remained untouched. The only damage that occurred in close proximity to the tilma was a hefty brass crucifix, which was twisted and bent back by the blast. (Mtnatholic.com)



## **The Faith Formation Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in the Cabrini Center.**

This year we will be presenting the Nativity of our Lord according to The Gospel of Saint Luke. There will also be a youth music recital prior to the Pageant. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help with preparations, please e-mail David Collins at: [David.Collins@sfxcparrish.com](mailto:David.Collins@sfxcparrish.com) **Thank you!**

2nd Sunday of Advent



**Come Join us!**

**Thursday, December 19 @5:30**  
in the Mother Cabrini Center.

Please call the parish office at  
776.9097 to RSVP with the  
number of people who will be  
attending and the entrée, side  
dish, or dessert you would  
like to bring.

**“For centuries men have kept an  
appointment with Christmas. Christmas  
means fellowship, feasting, giving and  
receiving, a time of good cheer, and home.”**

**—W. J. Tucker**



## Out and About the Parish

### *Pray for our Military:*



Sgt. Amy Cook; Sgt. Thomas Cook; SFC Kevin A. Correia; Sgt. John M. Danko, Jr; Lt. Patrick Devito; Lt. Cmdr. Julie Dumais; P5 Kathleen Foley; Maj. Joseph Gill III; Sgt. Jonathan D. Ginn; Sgt FC Joseph Jackel; CPO Jennifer Keisacker; Sgt. Jeffery Keisacker; 1st Lt. William Knox; Sgt Austin W. Kommick; Seaman Nolan MacDowell; Major Bonnie Meister; Cpl Jaclyn Monnerjahn; Cpl Matthew Monnerjahn; SSgt. Francois Moreau; Sgt. Anthony Mottaz; E1 Brian O'Houlahan; LCpl Patrick O'Houlahan; 2C Rose O'Houlahan; Cpl Timothy O'Houlahan; Cpl Matthew Ortiz; SSgt Jeremy Pelkey; Maj. Allen Pepper; SSgt Alex Dante Ponzi; Sr.A Chelsey Danielle Ponzi; Sgt Steven Popek; Capt. John A. Scott; CPO Kevin Sips; Pfc Jason Stinton; Lt. Cmdr. Stephan Szachta; Sgt. Eric Terlau; 1st Lt. William P. Traeger; Capt. Edward Vazquez; Sgt. Nicholas Weaver, CPL Taylor-Kurlas White; Sgt. Damon White

### Health Tips for the Fall and Winter

The cold and flu season is here. I would like to ask that everyone take seriously their own health and the health of our fellow parishioners. Very often we forget how fragile some people's immune system is and that although we mean well, shaking each other's hand while we are ill can very easily spread germs that can make others very sick.

**During the coming months please do not feel uncomfortable about not shaking hands at the "Sign of Peace" during Mass—a simple friendly wave or nod of the head is acceptable and could help keep all of us healthy this winter.**

### CCW Angel Tree

THANK YOU  
TO EVERYONE WHO  
MADE THE Angel TREE  
A SUCCESS!!!



## **Knights of Columbus Council 12155 Nativity Fundraiser**



The St. Frances Cabrini Knights of Columbus will be taking orders after each Mass for a beautiful Nativity Silhouette. This Bright, white Nativity of the Holy Family is made for all weather and is fade resistant with white PVC.

Large Nativity (4'X4') - \$120 + Tax  
Small Nativity (2'x2') - \$60 + Tax