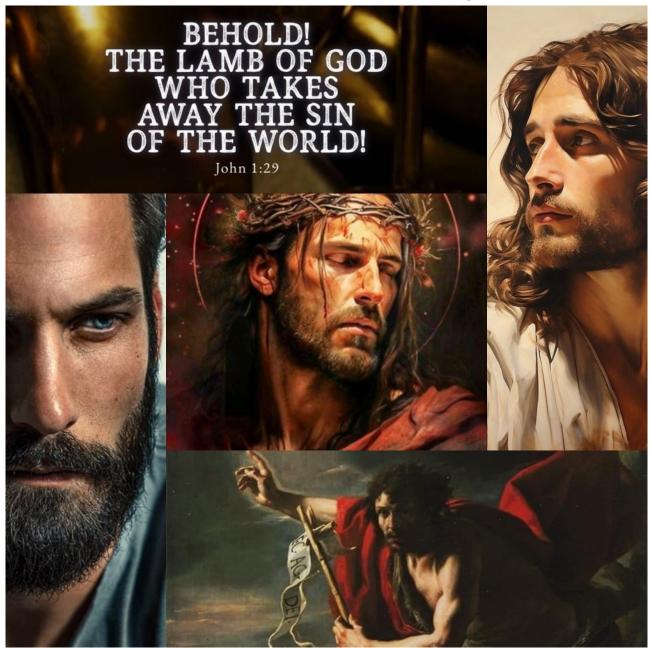
St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church

12001 69th St. East, Parrish, Fl. 34219 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WWW.SFXCPARRISH.COM OFFICE HOURS sec@sfxcparrish.com Mon.-Fri 8:00am-4:00pm 941.776.9097



SCHEDULE OF MASSES Daily Mass: WED.THU, FRI -8:30 am Tuesday 5:30PM

> Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM Sunday: 8:00 AM & 9:45 AM Pastor: Fr. Joseph Gates

PARISH STAFF

Operations Manager: Richard Lind Religious Education: Mary Jo Chronis Sacramental Coordinator: Chris Malone Liturgy Coordinator: Lydia Herrera Maintenance & IT: Ernie Nolder Maintenance: Roger Rodriguez Data Entry: Tom Moline

WELCOME WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE ntentions

TUESDAY JANUARY 16 +HAYDEN SIMS 5:30pm

Req.By: Friends

+EVERY SOUL IN PURGATORY 2nd Int.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17 +JEAN STONE 8:30am Family

Req. By:

THURSDAY JANUARY 18 +GAIL ROBINSON 8:30am

Req. By; Friends

FRIDAY JANUARY 19 8:30am **+THOMAS DI REENO**

Req. By Wife

SATURDAY JANUARY 20

4:00 pm +ALBERT & MARY DeGEORGE

Req. By: Loving Children 2nd Int; **+ANTHONY S. GULLO**

Rea. By Carol Valvo

3rd. Int: JOE Del CASTILLO b-dAY

SUNDAY January 21

ETHAN BORJA B-Day 8:00am

Req. By: Lolo & Lola **+BETTY HARTUNG** 2nd Int. Rea. By; Daughter

9:45. **+KIMBERLY MURPHY**

Rea. By: Elaine Kemp

Last Rites & Anointing of the Sick Due to the Distance from Parrish Manatee Hospital:

St. Joseph: 941-756-3732 Sacred Heart: 941-748-2221 **Lakewood Ranch Hospital:**

Our Lady of the Angels: 941-752-6770

Doctor's Hospital Sarasota:

Incarnation: 941-921-6631 St. Patrick's: 941-378-1703

DO NOT WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE

If in Hospice at home—please call as soon as Possible preferably during the day!

Emergency Number 813-629-3963 for Priest in case of Death

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

First Reading 65:Ism 3:3b-10,19

Psalms 40:2,4,7-10

Second Reading1Cor6:13c-15a17-20

Gospel Reading Jn 1:35-42 **SACRAMENTS:**

Contact the Office

For registered & active **Baptism:**

parishioners:

Baptism instruction is required for Parents.

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 2:00-3:00 PM In the main Church or by Appointment

Weddings: Must be arranged with the pastor at least 6 months before the date desired.

Funerals: Please contact the Office for a meeting for Dates, Readings, and music. There are certain policies in place at St. Frances Cabrini for the respectful burial of vour loved one.



Thrift Store hours 9:00am-2:00pm **Monday-Friday** Closed: Wednesday & Weekends

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY

311: Sm15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9,16-17,21,23

TUESDAY

312:1Sm 16:1-13 Ps 89:20-22,27-28 Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY ST.ANTHONY, ABBOT

313: Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51 Ps 144:1-2,9-10 Mk3:1-6

THURSDAY

314: 1Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Ps 56:2-3,9-14 Mk 3:7-12 **FRIDAY**

315:1Sm 24:3-21 Ps 57:2-4,6,11 Mk 3:13-19

Supporting our Diocese

Our Goal to support the Diocesan Offices, Missions, and Charities.

Goal: \$250,000.00 Raised So Far: \$



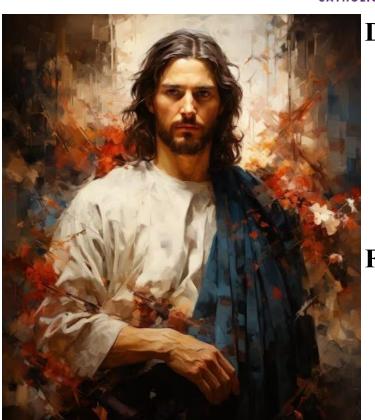
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Focused Giving

Helping to relieve our Parish of St. Frances Cabrini Debt!

Debt Free by 2023

Goal: \$174,559.61 Raised So Far this year \$42,695.00



DIVINE MERCY CENACLE

Monday Cenacle meets at 6:30PM to 8PM

0.501 111 to 01 111

Wednesday Cenacle meets at

9:30AM to 11AM

For more information contact:

Diane Creel at:

E-mail:dicreel@aol.com

Phone: 941-981-5136

JANUARY 14, 2024

FAITH FORMATION



St. Frances Cabrini invites you to take advantage of our FREE subscription to FORMED.org with Catholic programming for the **entire family!** To set up your FREE account, visit

formed.org/signup and select our parish.

[You can search by zip code 34219]

There is also an APP ~ learn more at app.formed.org.

Below are a few examples of programs available for families, parents, children, youth, and adults...











This Week in Faith Formation

Sunday, January 14th

First Communion Y2 11:00-12:30 PM

Wednesday, January 17th

HSYG w/ Fr. Joseph 6:30-7:30 PM

Thursday, January 18th

OCIA will not meet (SFXC Potluck)

Ubcomina Information

Sunday, January 21st

FFF Community Event 11:00-12:30 PM

Wednesday, January 24th

6th – 8th Grade & Confirmation Y1/Y2

6:00-8:00 PM

Thursday, January 25th

OCIA (w/Fr. Joseph) 5:00-8:00 PM

"The Wild Goose" 6:30-7:30 PM

*new adult study group-info below!

THE WILD GOGE DISCOVERING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

You are invited to take part in a 14-week study that will give you the opportunity to experience a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit. Each session will consist of watching an episode followed by a small group discussion/reflection. The group will meet in the Cabrini Center on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30. Sessions begin January 25th and end May 9th. The study group will be led by Paul and Diane Dadowski. Call the Parish Office to register! 941-776-9097.

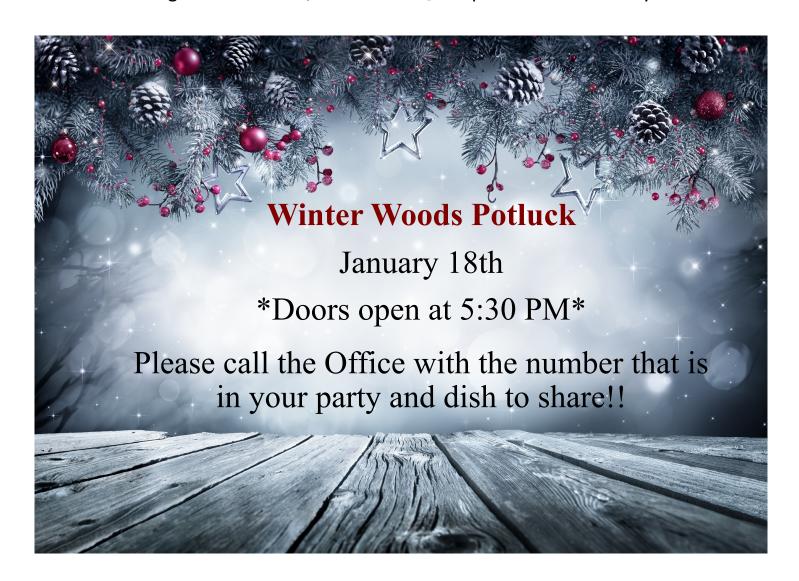
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Finance Council Application

A Parish Finance Committee is a group of individuals who are appointed to advise the pastor in the finances of a church. The committee is usually made up of volunteers who have a background in finance, accounting and or Law. They are responsible for ensuring that the financial resources of the church are being utilized in the best way possible. The Parish Finance Committee works closely with the parish priest and the church staff as an advisory board to help manage the financial affairs of the church.



If you'd like to be considered, please submit a resume of your background to Business Manager Richard Lind, Richard.lind@sfxcparrish.com. Thank you!



JANUARY 14, 2024

Worthy is the Lamb? By Thomas J. Nash

Even among animals, a lamb is not a likely "leading man" for a Hollywood action-adventure. Mighty Mouse or Underdog could save the day, but not a lamb; lambs are known for *needing* help in times of trouble. Recall the wandering lamb that had to be rescued (Mt 18:12-13), or other lambs that needed protection from a menacing wolf (Jn 10:11-12).

An Untimely and Humiliating Death: What was God thinking when He chose the lamb as His ideal model of sacrifice and victory over slavery and sin? If we were casting a hero from the animal kingdom, we would probably choose someone like the aforementioned Mighty Mouse or Underdog (for an animated feature), or Lassie or Rin Tin Tin (if we needed a real, live animal). And let's not forget the indomitable King Kong, who was especially impressive when he staved off the favored Godzilla in their epic, big-screen battle. In contrast, we surely wouldn't cast a lamb. Lambs are cuddly and cute, but they do not exactly inspire battlefield confidence.

Jesus didn't inspire confidence either as the Romans led to Him to His crucifixion. He seemed to lack the militant spirit of a captured hero planning his escape. Rather, the self-professed Messiah, the designated "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" (Jn 1:29), was apparently meeting an untimely and most humiliating death: And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in Him. He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him in the same way. (Mt 27:39-44)

Jesus's opponents thought He was just another typical lamb, loyally following an alleged heavenly plan that had gone very wrong. But this Lamb was different. While He visibly played the role of Suffering Servant, opening not His mouth "like a lamb that is led to the slaughter" (Is 53:7), Jesus simultaneously served as the triumphant Lamb of God, who won a decisive victory over sin and Satan (Heb 2:14-15; 1 Jn. 3:8). Just as His jeering opponents were counting Him out, just when His suffering and death seemed to signal a certain and bitter defeat, Jesus, ironically and mysteriously, became most triumphant: [W]hen he makes himself an offering for sin,...he shall see the fruit of the travail of his soul and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous; and he shall bear their iniquities.... [He] was numbered among the transgressors; yet he bore the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.... (Is 53:10-12; cf. *Catechism*, no. 601)

Follow the Leader: Jesus proclaimed Himself as "the way, the truth and the life" (Jn 14:6) and backed it up by rising from the dead. He also called himself "the Good shepherd," adding that "I know My own and My own know Me" (Jn 10:14). Yet our modern world resists following the Good Shepherd, in part because of the stigma attached to being a sheep.

Sheep have long had a reputation for being dumb. Ask anyone's who's worked with them: Sheep don't adapt and improvise, they just follow. While goats display intelligence and independence, lambs docilely allow their shepherd to think for them. And here we need to make an important distinction. As Scripture reminds us, both young sheep and young goats are lambs, and God told Moses that either would be acceptable for the original Passover sacrifice (Ex 12:5). Yet the docility of the sheep lamb would eventually win out over the independence of the goat lamb in salvation history. In a sobering forecast of the Last Judgment, Jesus says that "the sheep" will stand on His right and be saved, while "the goats" will stand on His left and be damned for all eternity (Mt 25:31-46).

Contrary to popular opinion, *everyone* follows someone or something. The goats travel down a road well-worn by Satan and his fallen-angelic associates, spiritual beings far more intelligent than they (cf. Mt 7:13-14). "Claiming to be wise" like Satan, the goats also risk "becoming [everlasting] fools" (Rom 1:22). Meanwhile, the sheep don't mind charges of "blind obedience," because they realize that their Shepherd is no ordinary member of "Who's Who," but rather the divine "I am Who I am" (Ex 3:14; cf. Jn 8:58). While the road that leads to eternal life is narrow and hard, they understand that it reaps abundant life, now and forever (Jn 10:10), and they further realize that the Good Shepherd never asks us to do anything that He hasn't already done Himself, namely, embrace His Cross.

As the first Passover lambs gave their blood for the ransom of Israel from Egyptian slavery, "Christ, our [ultimate] Paschal Lamb," shed His Blood to free us from sin (1 Cor 5:7-8; cf. Is 53:10-12). He offered Himself for us who had gone astray and still go astray (*Catechism*, no. 615). He also offered us a lesson in living. Suffering isn't bad — in fact, it's redemptive and empowering — as long you're suffering on behalf of God and His Kingdom.

The Lambs Win in the End: If we suffer for the Kingdom, we can never lose, only gain. We may look like defeated sacrificial lambs, but, now and forever, we'll win, just as Jesus defeated sin and death on Mt. Calvary, and just as many saints have similarly laid down their lives ever since. When we are willing to die to ourselves and submit to God's plan for our lives, we will ironically receive abundant life like never before. St. Paul said it best when commenting on his battles with the devil and other enemies of God's Kingdom: Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor 12:9-10)

The source of Paul's strength is Jesus, the same Jesus who allows us to re-present and partake of His one, everlasting Sacrifice at *every* Mass under the appearances of bread and wine. In an earlier letter to the Corinthians, Paul affirms that the Eucharist makes Him strong in his weakness. The Communion bread and cup is a blessing because we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ which unites all Christians (1 Cor 10:16-17). To be found worthy like the Lamb, St. Paul teaches, we have to partake of the Lamb. We need to learn the biblical story of the Mass, but, most importantly, we also need to live it.

Why do People Hate the Catholic Church by Dr. Donald Demarco

The Venerable Fulton J. Sheen lamented that "There are not over a hundred people in the United States who hate the Catholic Church; there are millions, however, who hate what they wrongly believe to be the Catholic Church". This observation must have been most distressing for the renowned bishop, but it indicates that there is a lot of work to be done. Sheen, therefore, was most energetic in his support of the missions. The historian Arthur M. Schlesinger has characterized prejudice against Catholics as "the deepest bias in the history of the American people."

In his book, *The Nature of Prejudice,*" Gordon Allport relates a revealing anecdote that occurred in Boston when a dignitary of the Catholic Church and his driver offered a lift to a young black lad who was trudging along the road. Once in the car, the cleric asked the boy if he was Catholic. Wide-eyed with alarm, the boy retorted, "No sir, it's bad enough being colored without being one of those things". Ignorance can lead to unfortunate caricatures.

In Scott and Kimberly Hahn's conversion story, *Home Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism*, Scott confesses that his good friend J erry Matatics "loved the Bible as much as I and hated the Catholic Church even more". The pair did not persist in their mutual hatred. Once they realized what the Church actually is, they both became Catholics, and zealously apostolic to boot.

The story is told of an Oxford student who remarked, "I despise all Americans, but I have never met one I didn't like". In this case, the animosity against all Americans exists despite the fact that such a disposition runs counter to the student's lived experience.

The history of the Catholic Church is rife with anti-Catholicism. In colonial times, according to English law, Catholics were not supposed to exist anywhere under the English Crown. Nonetheless, by 1776, colonial Americans enjoyed a degree of religious freedom they had not known in England. At the same time, Catholics were excluded from voting and holding public office.

In the mid-1850s the Know Nothing movement flourished. Its members were required to say nothing whenever asked by outsiders about its specifics. Hence, its peculiar name. They feared that the Pope would subject his flock in a way contrary to the growing American spirit. One Boston minister described Catholicism as "the ally of tyranny, the opponent of material prosperity, the foe of thrift, the enemy of the railroad, the caucus, and the school". Another described it in more extreme terms: "Hell must rejoice and demons exult in so accursed an institution. So long as it shall flourish, Satan will need no emissaries."

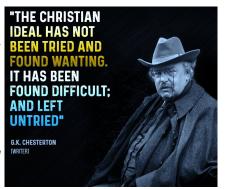
On August 6, 1855 a riot broke out in Louisville, Kentucky between Know Nothings and Catholics in which twenty-two people were killed. This "Bloody Monday" episode was not the only riot that involved these two groups. In Baltimore, violence erupted in the mayoral elections of 1856, 1857, and 1858. In 1854, Know Nothings were associated with the tarring and feathering of a Catholic priest, Jesuit Johannes Bath. They also burned down a Catholic church in Bath, Maine. In a private letter, dated August 24, 1855, Abraham Lincoln denounced the Know Nothing movement with flaming rhetoric: "When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read 'all men are created equals, except negroes and foreigners and Catholics.' When it comes to that I should prefer emigrating to some country where they make no pretense of loving liberty—to Russia, for instance, where despotism can be taken pure, and without the base alloy of hypocrisv."

The most violent and notorious anti-Catholic faction in America was the Ku Klux Klan that fiercely opposed all immigrants. The Klan believed that all foreign ideas are un-American. Consequently, to cite but one example, they took dead aim at the Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary who came from Quebec to teach in Oregon. In the early 1920s Oregon was the home of approximately 14,000 members of the Klan, including Portland's mayor. They regarded themselves as the "real" Americans and felt duty bond to rid the state of Catholic teaching. Fiery crosses and marches in Ku Klux Klan regalia were common sights in Oregon at that time.

The Klan was instrumental in electing Democrat Walter M. Pierce as the state's governor. The Klan also played a significant role in in getting The Oregon Compulsory Education Act passed in 1922. The act would compel all children between the ages of eight and sixteen to attend public schools. Its goal was to eliminate all Catholic schools. On June 1, 1925, the Supreme Court of the United States, by a unanimous vote, overturned the Act. It stated that Oregon's Education Act "is an unreasonable interference with the liberty of the parents and guardians to direct the upbringing of the children and in that respect violates the Fourteenth Amendment".

In the present era, we witness the vandalism of hundreds of Catholic churches solely on the basis of Catholic teaching that abortion is morally indefensible.

What, then, are the reasons behind this broad and persistent hatred of the Catholic Church? They are many. First, there is ignorance of what the Church is and a fierce opposition to something that the Church is not. Then there is the misjudgment that the Church imposes alien ideas on people, thereby interfering with their freedom to live their own lives. It is because people are complacent with their illusions and do not want to relinquish them. In addition, what the Church teaches is demanding for people who prefer a more unencumbered life. Lastly, since Catholicism is a sign of contradiction, it will always be at odds with the world. In this regard, G. K. Chesterton makes a valid in insightful point when he states that "The Christian ideal has not been *tried and found* wanting. It has been *found difficult*; *and* left untried."







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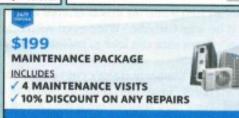
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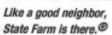
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