

Saint Mary Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

Franciscan Friars, Third Order Regular

515 4th Street South

Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701

+Diocese of Saint Petersburg



One hallmark of Franciscan spirituality is to extend welcome to all.

On behalf of the Franciscan Friars, Third Order Regular,
and the parish family of Saint Mary Our Lady of Grace, we extend this heartfelt invitation:

*No matter what your present or past status in the Catholic Church.
No matter what your current family or marital situation.
No matter what your past or present religious affiliation.
No matter what your personal history, age, background, race, or color.
You are invited, welcomed, accepted and loved here at
Saint Mary Our Lady of Grace.*

In the words of Saint Francis of Assisi:
“May the Lord give you peace.”

Saint Mary Our Lady of Grace

Franciscan Friars, Third Order Regular

Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:00am - Tuesday & Thursday 12:10pm

Weekend: Saturday 4:00pm Vigil. Sunday Mass 8:00am & 11:00 am

Holy Days: Please check within the bulletin for Mass times

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday: 3:00—3:45pm and by appointment

If you are new to our community, please introduce yourself to one of our Friars. If you are visiting and interested in registering, please pick up a blue registration form found in the church or visit our Parish Office. Once completed either return it to our Office or drop it in the collection basket.

Membership is required for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. Registration is also required before the pastor can issue a certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors.

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made 6 months in advance by contacting our Wedding Coordinator via the parish office. Participation in marriage preparation is required by the Diocese of Saint Petersburg.

Parish Staff:

Pastor

Fr. Damian Amantia, TOR

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Larry Uhlman, TOR

In Residence

Fr. James Gigliotti, TOR

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Michael Menchen

Rev. Mr. Richard Santello

Business & Physical Plant Dir.

Antoinette Magnani (ext 206)

Parish Ministry Assistant

(ext 201)

Director of

Faith Formation

Lynn Doto (ext 207)

Wedding Coordinator

Alice Coston

Director of Liturgy/Music

Michelle Rego (ext 208)

Physical Plant Custodial Care

Calvin Adams

Parish Office Hours:

9am-3pm Mon—Thurs

Office is Closed Friday

(727) 896-2191

Parish Bulletin:

Articles needed by

Wednesday noon

2 weeks prior to print date.

Parish Website:

www.stmaryolg.org

Parish Email:

info@stmaryolg.org

727-825-0442



Knights of Columbus # 2105

Rick Smith - **727-403-3932**



Parish Ministries:

Altar Servers

Al Hoel

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Alan and Dale Stewart

Holy Communion - Sick & Homebound

Fr. Larry Uhlman

Legion of Mary

Peggy Brydebell

Hospitality Ministers/Ushers

John Davis

Ministry to the Deaf

Carol Downing

Music Ministry & Readers

Michelle Rego

Brotherhood of Our Lady men's group

Mark Egeling

Secular Franciscans

Jim Gillis

Companions of Clare women's group

Karen Egeling

Wonderful Wednesday Faith Group

Jen Ehrhart

Ancient Order of Hibernians

Sean Denny

Rosary Mondays

Suzanne Hester



**Wednesday of this week, February 18th , will be Ash Wednesday
and the beginning of the Season of Lent.
Ash Wednesday IS NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.**

Why Ashes?

On this day the Church invites us to receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads as a sign that during the coming Season of Lent we will make sincere efforts to cleanse our lives of sin and to discipline ourselves through prayer and fasting.

Who may receive Ashes?

Baptized individuals who have reached the age of reason and Catechumens may receive ashes. **Babies and young children who have not yet received the Sacrament of Penance should not be presented to receive ashes as ashes are intended for those who are capable of personal sin.**

Ashes and the Word of God

As with all material things which are used as religious symbols, the symbolism of ashes is complex. In themselves ashes have little meaning. The “dust” into which we shall return, taken by itself can be perceived as just a morbid reminder that one day we will die and can even become an empty superstition rather than a religious act. But received in light of God’s revealing Word, ashes can become for us as Christians the biblical symbol they are intended to be. It is for this reason that the Church has placed the reception of ashes within the framework of the reading of Scripture. Ashes recall that we are mortal and subject to death. God’s Word reminds us that it is not the death of the body, but rather the death of the soul that is to be feared. Through the Scripture readings God calls us to return to him with our whole heart. In the light of these readings the reception of ashes becomes for us the symbol of hearts that desire to turn to God, a God who is “gracious and merciful, rich in kindness and relenting in punishment.”

Ash Wednesday Schedule

Ashes will be distributed after the homily during the 8AM and 12:10 PM Masses.
Ashes will also be distributed during a Scripture service at 6PM.

Regulations on Fasting and Abstinence

The dual disciplines of fasting and abstinence have a long history in the Catholic Church. Going back to the early Church, the purpose behind the custom of self-denial is not punishment; it is to simplify our lifestyles so that we create a certain emptiness. In this way, freed from all distractions, we are able to hear and respond to God’s continued call to conversion and holiness.

+ **Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 to 59 years (inclusive). On days of fasting, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.

+ **Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence.

NOTE: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition. Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or the renewal of baptism at Easter.

As we begin our Lenten journey: May the Lord give you peace.

J. Lamian



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Are you ready for your Greatest Adventure?

Have you always desired to be Catholic or do you know someone interested in the Catholic faith? Are you curious about baptism or confirmation or do you want to wonder with others about being a disciple of Christ? Is Jesus calling you to grow in relationship with Him?

Join us for a spiritual journey that includes engaging with the mysteries of the Catholic Faith, reflecting on the Gospel readings as a community and being offered a mentor as you walk this journey. We meet most Sundays at 12:15PM in the Parish Center. **Text (or call) Lynn 727-409-1392** for more information and to receive a list of meeting dates.



Stations of the Cross

Will be held each **THURSDAY** of Lent, beginning Thursday, Feb. 19 immediately after the 12:10 pm Mass in the Church.

All are welcome to attend and pray this traditional Lenten devotion.



Welcoming Christopher into the church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Congratulations Simon Family!

ALMSGIVING DURING LENT

Please give generously to our families supported by DayStar - A beautiful way to love our neighbors!

Travel size, new unopened items urgently needed:

- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Body Lotion
- Feminine Hygiene
- Soap
- Individually wrapped Wipes
- Deodorant
- individually wrapped granola bars & snacks

A collection basket is at the ramp door table from February 18 - March 22.





Readings for the day can be located at: www.usccb.org



Please remember our Poor Boxes. Your donations serve our local community through Daystar Outreach, Saint Mary's Ministry of Mercy. Located at both side entrances.

Heavenly Father, we ask that you bless and comfort our brothers and sisters who are ill. Surround them with your healing presence and give them strength. Amen.

*Kimberly Mullick,
Karla McClintock,
James Patrick King,
Kent Gilbertson,
Eddie Connaughton,
Nancy Hogan, Lyric Adams,
Daniel Sharpe, Pat Dillinger,
Teresa Russo, Jewel Barron,
Clarice Carpenter,
Sylvia Gonzales, Theo Rennard,
Rosalind Flynn,
Linda & Kennedy Johnson,
Tom Foote, Erica Swenson,
JoAnn, Mikro & Alaina
Dimovski and Joseph John Cala,
James Kochen, Lee Allen,
Susanna Vazquez
and Cynthia Allen.*

Please inform the Parish Office of prayer requests as they are updated monthly.

Gluten Free-hosts are available upon request.

Simply stop by the Sacristy before Mass and let the Sacristan or Presider know of your need!

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*The **Vigil candle** burning at the statue of Our Lady of Grace is in loving honor of **†Edward Hendrixson** requested by **Susanna Bellafante***

*The flowers at the statue of Our Lady of Grace are made possible by a generous donation from **Ray and Susan Kikel***

Sunday 2/15
8:00 am Parishioners and Staff
11:00 am †George Merchant by Fr. Damian and Deacon Michael Menchen
Monday 2/16
8:00 am †Mary Carol Winslow by James Ford
Tuesday 2/17
12:10 pm †George Merchant by Jim Barron and Philip Boyle
Wednesday 2/18
8:00 am †Elizabeth Licata by The Amantia Family
12:10 pm †The Souls in Purgatory
6:00 pm Parishioners and Staff
Thursday 2/19
12:10 pm †John Gallo by The Amantia and Johnston Families
Friday 2/20
8:00 am †Parishioners of St. Mary Our Lady of Grace by Friars and Staff
Saturday 2/21
4:00 pm †Ted Kasprow by Henry Kasprow
Sunday 2/22
8:00 am †Ann and John Herrmann by Carol Steckel
11:00 am Parishioners and Staff

If you would like to remember a loved one or a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.) by having a 2 week candle burn at the statue of Our Lady of Grace, or by contributing toward the cost of the gifts of bread and wine used during Mass on the weekends, please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

A suggested donation of \$20 would be greatly appreciated.

Floral arrangement placed at the statue of Our Lady of Grace, in loving memory or a special occasion, is available through the parish office.

Flowers are \$35 an offering for a bouquet.

WINTER CONCERT SERIES 2026 concludes February 15 at 3:00 pm.

This final concert is FREE and open to all.

We rely on generous donors and sponsors for the continuation of the series in 2027.

To make a donation, use this QR code or pick up a flyer at the ramp door of the church!

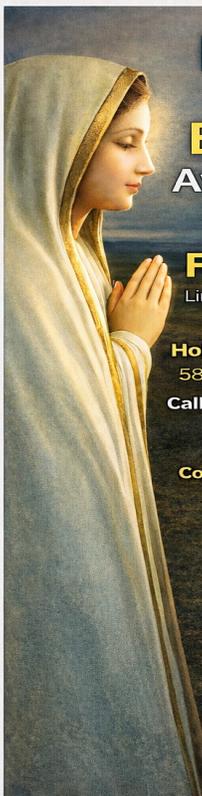
Thank you for your support!



February 15, 2026
Starts at
3:00 PM

Love is (Still) in the Air with the TRILLSEEKERS flute quartet

Florida Trill Seekers unites four flute friends—Karen Ciccone, Ginny Katz, Chris Sims, and Suzanne Wieland—who share a passion for flute playing and the joy of music. Their program offers a Valentine’s-inspired tribute, guiding audiences to “find love” in unexpected places like mountaintops, parties, and moonlit nights. Highlights include Mascagni’s Intermezzo, Bart’s Where is Love?, and Dvořák’s Serenade.



Fatima of Asia
invites you to a
Bus Pilgrimage
Ave Maria University
Saint Theresa of Calcutta
Museum
February 24, 2026
Limited to 50 tickets, first come first serve
Departs 7:30am from
Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church
5800 15th Ave South, Gulfport, FL 33707
Call: Jim Gillis, OFS (727) 564-1733
• Liz Remo 813-786-5401
• Jun Remo 813-495-1373
Co-sponsors: Legion of Mary and Secular Franciscan
Have breakfast and bring a bag lunch.
Stopping for dinner on the way.

SCAN ME




presents

EMPTY BOWLS WLS

benefitting



Saturday, March 14th, 2026



Join Us for Our 3rd Annual Empty Bowls Event!

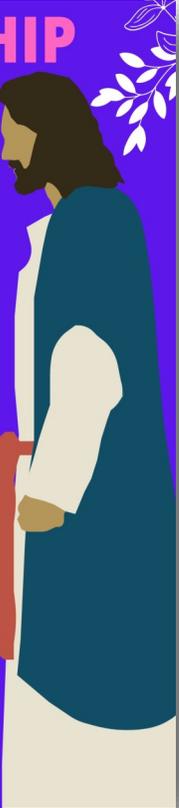
This event is more than just a meal and a great time: it's a way to support our neighbors in need while enjoying delicious food, art, and community spirit.

Get Tickets →




STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Dear Lord, Open our minds and hearts to a greater awareness and deeper appreciation of your countless blessings. We pray for the Holy Spirit to transform our parish into a lifelong faith-based community where we generously share our God-given gifts as a true act of faith, reflecting our love for you and our neighbors. We pray through Christ, our Lord.
Amen



Are YOU a parish member? If not, please register! All you have to do is fill out a blue registration form (found at the church doors and in the parish office) or fill out the form online at <https://stmaryolg.org/parishioners>. Registration is necessary to keep our parish rolls current, and assists you in securing sacramental and pastoral services.

When you register, you can sign up for various ministries around the parish. You can also choose to receive contribution envelopes, or simply opt to do your stewardship online. Other convenient ways to give:

Use the **QR code** below or **text MARYOLG to 91999**. No matter which way you choose, we **NEED** your support, whether you are a registered parishioner or a visitor! **And we THANK YOU for your generosity!**

