

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



The late Pope Saint John Paul II in his Angelus message on December 19, 2004 said: *"The traditional 'Christmas tree' is a very ancient custom which exalts the value of life, as in winter the evergreen becomes a sign of undying life. In general, the tree is decorated and Christmas gifts are placed under it. The symbol is also eloquent from a typically Christian point of view: It reminds us of the 'tree of life' (see Genesis 2:9), representation of Christ, God's supreme gift to humanity."*

"The message of the Christmas tree, therefore, is that life is 'ever green' if one gives: not so much material things, but of oneself: in friendship and sincere affection, and fraternal help and forgiveness, in shared time and reciprocal listening."

My dear sisters and brothers, whether you have a Christmas tree in your home or not the fact remains that we are indeed 'ever green' because of the wondrous and unfathomable truth that God loves us so much that He became one of us. The truth about us is that we are created in the image and likeness of God who is love, and made with the power to love and the yearning to be loved, and with innate dignity that demands respect in all circumstances. Yes, we were made to be 'ever green' for one another!

One of the great and joyous mysteries of our annual celebration of the birth of the incarnate love of God during the Christmas Season is the way in which people are moved with the "Spirit of Christmas" to be more caring, kind and loving to one another. In a way, it's like God's own love taking shape, taking flesh, in our own lives.

May the Lord in his love, touch you and your loved ones this Holy Season with peace of heart and mind, health and great joy in the New Year. May you remain 'ever green' knowing that the peace and joy proclaimed by the angels is meant for shepherds in the fields and for us.

On behalf of Frs. Larry, Jim, John, Deacon Michael, the parish staff and myself, a blessed Christmas to all.

J. Lamin



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.

The Merry Makers Present
Tropical Luau Trivia

SATURDAY
JANUARY 24, 2026

START AT 5 PM
AFTER THE 4:00 PM MASS

Scan the QR Code to
get your tickets today!



Join us for an evening of Trivia, fun prizes, and a full
Hawaiian Luau Feast! Each Trivia Ticket includes a full
Hawaiian Feast and are \$30 per person.

MENU
Kalua Pork, Teriyaki Chicken, Macaroni
Salad, Fried Rice, Chopped Kale Salad and
Dinner Rolls followed by Hawaiian Inspired
Desserts

Winter Concert Series Begins this JANUARY 4! All concerts FREE!



January 4, 2026
Starts at
3:00 PM

“Afro Opera” presents Seasons of Soul:
Arias, Spirituals, Art Songs and More!

Join Afro Opera this winter for a heartwarming evening of music featuring Soprano Maiya Stevenson and Tenor Kevin Mitchell of St. Pete Opera. Their program blends Christmas favorites, soulful spirituals, timeless art songs, and soaring opera duets, from Mozart’s Don Giovanni to moving pieces like Sweet Little Jesus Boy and No Ways Tired.

**Sunday 12/21**

8:00 am †Jake Donaghy
by Ray Donaghy

11:00 am Parishioners and Staff

Monday 12/22

8:00 am †Julian Guarado
by Ariana Shaver

Tuesday 12/23

12:10 pm †Olga "Lou" Bognanno
by Fr. Damian Amantia

Wednesday 12/24

4:00 pm †Judith Miller
by Friends

Thursday 12/25

12:00 am Parishioners and Staff

10:00 am †Charles and Bessie Kuchan Sr.
and Family
by Judge Kovachevich

Friday 12/26

8:00 am †David Derek Barnes
by Judge Kovachevich

Saturday 12/27

4:00 pm †Ted Kasprow
by Henry Kasprow

Sunday 12/28

8:00 am Parishioners and Staff

11:00 am †Frank Bellafante
by Susanna Bellafante

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

GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS
Are available for Masses
upon request.

If you require a gluten-free
host, please come to the
sacristy before Mass starts
to request one, and we
can accommodate you!

*The Vigil candle burning
at the statue of
Our Lady of Grace
is in loving honor of
†William H. Cloud III
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*



**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, Mary Fletcher, Lee
Allen, Susanna Vazquez
and Cynthia Allen.*

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

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.

Christmas at Saint Mary Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Wednesday, December 24, 4:00 pm

Carols and anthems at 3:30 pm

The Midnight Mass of Christmas

Thursday, December 25, 12:00 am

Carols and anthems 30 minutes prior

Christmas Day Mass

Thursday, December 25, 10:00 am

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday December 31, 2025, 4:00 pm vigil

Thursday, January 1, 2026 9:00 am

PARKING NEWS!

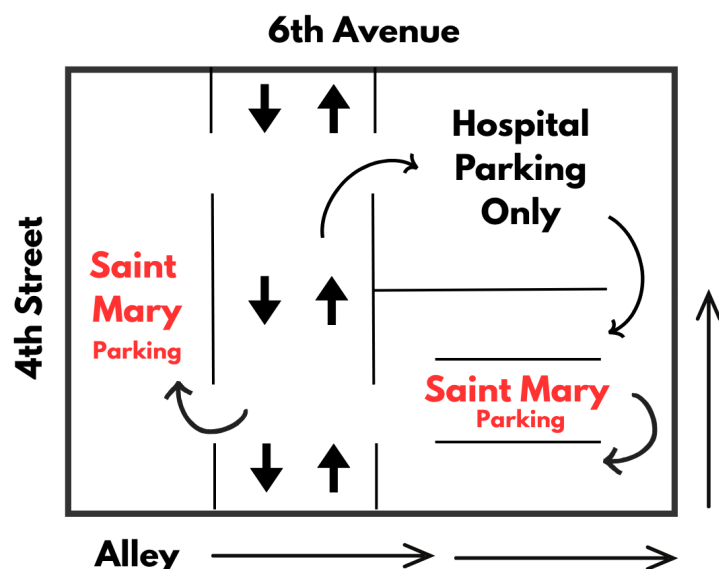
The paved parking lot adjacent to the church grounds is now open for our use thanks to the generosity of John's Hopkins Hospital!

We are allotted 55 spots in this new lot, and the gates will be open for your entry 30 minutes prior to each weekend Mass.

PLEASE USE ONLY THE SPOTS indicated here and by the signage you will see upon entry. You may be ticketed if you use hospital parking!

Thank you for your cooperation and thanks to our good neighbors at John's Hopkins!

Parking Update



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!**

