



The month of March falls during the season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color purple-a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

This bulletin will include Holy Week which begins in March and extends into April.

The Gospel readings for March are taken from St. John and St. Mark

March 7 th 3 rd Sunday of Lent	The Gospel is about Christ driving the money changers from the temple
March 14 th 4 th Sunday of Lent	The Gospel tells about Nicodemus nocturnal visit to our Lord
March 21 st 5 th Sunday of Lent	This Gospel tells the story of Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life
March 28 th Palm Sunday of Lent	The reading of the Passion



Mass at St. Roch at Rocky Creek Village is open to those in Assisted Living and begins at 4:00 pm Saturday
 Mass is held at Regency Oaks St. Francis Extension on Sundays at 9:15 am
 Mass continues to be held on Sunday at 11:00 am at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Church
NOTE: Palm Sunday, March 28-St. Francis Mass will begin at 11:30 am

Viewing Sunday Mass if you can't attend:

You can view live via Facebook: <https://www.Facebook.com/ReverendRobertSwick> OR
 Go to our website <https://saintfrancisdunedin.org/> OR
 You can access it on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/USBsDB9CB3fwHoS35VbFGKAw/>
 The website and YouTube will be available on Sunday afternoons.

Those attending Mass are reminded:

Temperatures are taken + Masks are provided + Social distance is required
Sign of Peace-Wave or put hand in prayer position and say "Ohio" (Japanese for Hello)
No collection + Donations may be left when leaving Mass

Receive the Holy Eucharist from Father Bob for use in your home during live streamed Mass!



Pyx containing the
Consecrated hosts



Can't attend Mass?

Even if we cannot be in attendance at Mass, we can still celebrate a Spiritual Communion and watch mass online. "We the people" are the church!

Those who have been participating in Mass via live streaming miss out on the true Source and Summit: the Holy Eucharist. These radical times of pandemic living demand radical adjustments to our way of worship. Since you can't come to the Holy Eucharist, Jesus Christ, in the form of the Consecrated Host is prepared to come to you in one of three ways:

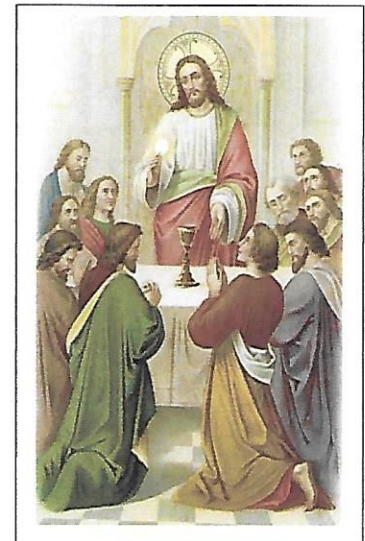
1. Father Bob will personally deliver the Holy Eucharist to those living in the Dunedin area. Personal care protocols will be adhered to.
2. You may come to the church right after Mass (12:00-12:15pm) to receive a Pyx containing Consecrated Hosts.
3. For those living at a distance, Consecrated Hosts will be secured in Pyxis and mailed to you! Contact Father Bob to provide your address.

Consecrated Hosts will be provided for each Baptized family member to virtually participate during Mass. Participate FULLY in Mass while live streaming!

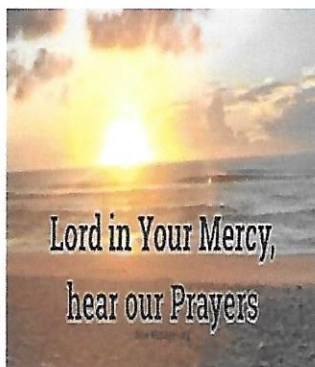
NOTE: Fr. Bob will provide proper catechesis to assure full worship, handling and placement of The Body of Christ is maintained at all times.

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion during
COVID 19 Crisis**

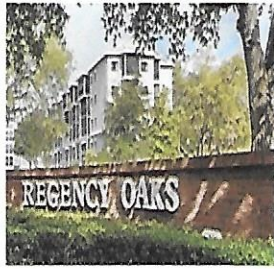
My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and united myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen



PRAYER
Requests



Bay Pines VA Hospital-All of the dedicated Essential Workers
Bill and Fran Cona + Ann and Gary Norlander
Joi Lenoce and daughter Terry + Peter Galleger
Newlyweds: Joshua and Jeanne Barber
All First Responders
A special prayer for unity among all Americans
For our Diocesan Bishop Steve Roszczewski



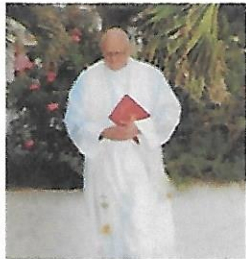
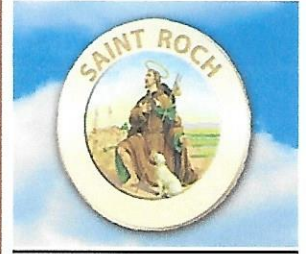
Palm Sunday Mass Schedule

St. Roch

Saturday, March 27 at 4:00 pm with restricted attendance

Regency Oaks

Sunday, March 28 at 9:15 am



Congratulations!

**Father Robert "Bob" Swick
9th Anniversary of Ordination**

Dear Lord Jesus,
You have given us a holy Priest in Father Bob.

We are grateful for the many blessings
of this good man who brings us
Your holy sacraments of salvation.

Father in heaven,
Continue to bless and multiply Fr. Bob's ministry.

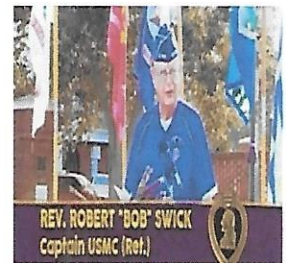
We praise and thank You, Most Holy God,
for the gift of Father Bob!

We thank you for his 9 years of service and ask
You to bless us with many more years with
our beloved Priest.

**Ordained a Priest
March 31, 2012**



Blessing of the Pets

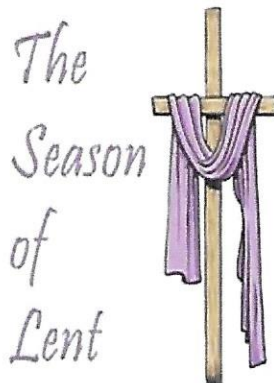


Consecration of Church



Lent 2021

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17) and ends on Holy Thursday (April 1). The 40 days of Lent correspond to the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness to fast, pray, and endure the temptations of the devil, all in preparation for his public ministry which would culminate in his death on the cross..



Prayer for Lent

Lord, during this Lenten season,
nourish me with Your Word of life
and make me one with You
in love and prayer

Amen



Holy Week

Holy Week begins the week before Easter Sunday. The week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Holy Saturday. Easter is not part of Holy Week, but is the beginning of the Easter season of the Liturgical year.



Jesus instructed his disciples to bring him a donkey. He then slowly, humbly, made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches in the air and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"



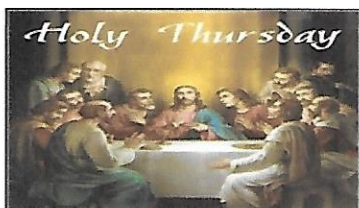
When Jesus arrived at the temple in Jerusalem, it was full of corrupt money changers. He overturned tables and cleared the Temple, saying, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be a house of prayer' but you have turned it into a den of thieves" (Luke 19:46)



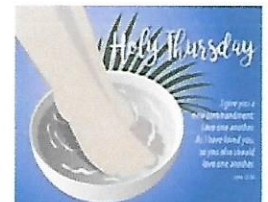
On the way to the Temple, Jesus avoided an ambush where they intended to put him under arrest. Later, Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives which overlooks Jerusalem. Jesus gave the Olivet Discourse and his prophecy of His end times, His Second Coming and the final judgement.



This Wednesday is also known as "Spy Wednesday", during which Judas acted as a spy for Sanhedrin. Judas accepted payment of 30 pieces of silver for information that led to the betrayal of Jesus Christ. Jesus was anointed with expensive alabaster by a woman in Bethany, in the house of leper, Simon.



Jesus washed the feet of his disciples before the Passover Feast. With the Last Supper, Jesus established the "Lord's Supper" or Communion. Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane and prayed to God the Father. Jesus was betrayed by Judas and arrested and denied three times by Peter.



Jesus was tried and sentenced to death. He was pierced with a crown of thorns. He carried his own cross to Calvary and was crucified. Jesus spoke seven final statements: first- "Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34) His last words were: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)



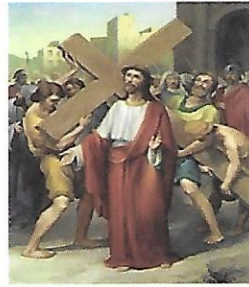
Known as Easter Vigil when a solemn vigil is held during the night, meditating on His suffering and death, in anticipation of the resurrection. The tomb was guarded by Roman soldiers until the Sabbath ended. After the Sabbath, according to Jewish custom, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea wrapped Christ's body with spices and sheets of linen cloth. (John 19:39-40)



Stations of the Cross According to the Method of St. Francis of Assisi



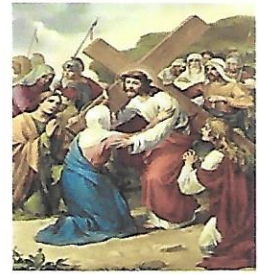
First Station
Jesus Is Condemned
to death



Second Station
Jesus Carries His Cross



Third Station
Jesus Falls the First Time



Fourth Station
Jesus Meets His
Blessed Mother



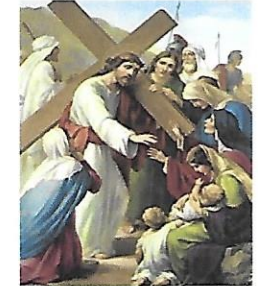
Fifth Station
Simon of Cyrene Helps
Jesus Carry His Cross



Sixth Station
Veronica Wipes the
Face of Jesus



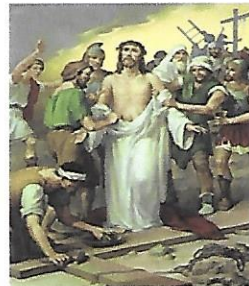
Seventh Station
Jesus Falls a
Second Time



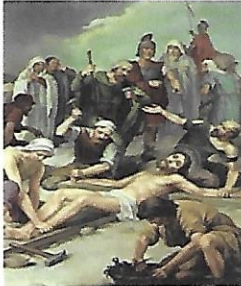
Eighth Station
Jesus Speaks to the
Women of Jerusalem



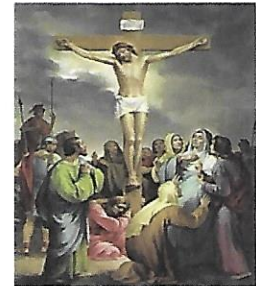
Ninth Station
Jesus Falls for the
Third Time



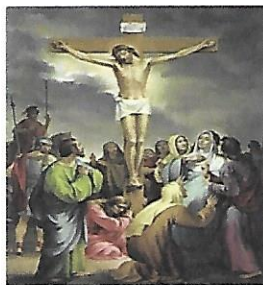
Tenth Station
Jesus is Stripped
of His Garments



Eleventh Station
Jesus is Nailed
to the Cross



Twelfth Station
Jesus Dies on the Cross



Thirteenth Station
Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross



Fourteenth Station
Jesus is Placed in the Tomb

**Save us, Savior of the World,
For by your Cross and Resurrection
You have set us free!**



Trea\$urer Report for March 2021
From Candy Christensen-Barker, Treasurer

Important deadline is looming!

March is an important month for our church. As mentioned in last month’s Bulletin, Fr. Bob will be celebrating the 9th Anniversary of his ordination on Wednesday, March 31st. To commemorate this important event in his life, Fr. Bob directed me to deposit all donations made to St. Francis during Lent to our account for the RIP Medical Debt organization. Our goal of \$15,000 will pay off \$1,500,000 in medical debt for our neighbors’ right here in Pinellas County.

Just before writing this article, I happened to receive my quarterly newsletter from my financial planner. As if God himself was communicating with me, the first article I read was titled, *Half of U.S. Adults Fear Health-Related Bankruptcy*. “In July 2020, half of U.S. adults were concerned that a major health event in their household could lead to bankruptcy, compared with 45% in early 2019. Health-related bankruptcy fears increased significantly for younger people.” Isn’t that why we are collecting money for RIP...so that our neighbors don’t have to file for bankruptcy for medical reasons?

In the first 10 weeks of 2021, your generous donations have totaled \$2,306 to this worthy cause, for a total balance of \$12,339. We have only \$2,661. more to collect! Please tell your friends, family or neighbors about RIP. Don’t be shy...ask them for a donation to RIP and let them know what it can do for so many people. As one of our parishioners likes to say, “Give until it feels good!”

During this Lenten period, Fr. Jacques and Fr. Bob challenged us to not give up anything, but instead to DO something for others. **Donating to RIP is a random act of kindness** because it is helping someone you don’t know, but whose life will be greatly impacted by your kindness. Your generosity may stave off bankruptcy, foreclosure or an eviction. That is powerful!

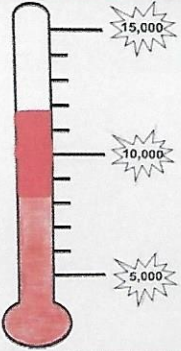
**If you decide to give, please don’t hesitate, we have a deadline of March 31st.
Send your check payable to St. Francis of Assisi, and in the memo line, write, FOR RIP!**

I know we can do this!

In gratitude,

Candy Christensen-Barker, Treasurer, St. Francis of Assisi

**HELP US RAISE
\$15,000**



Your contribution will help pay down \$1,500,000 in medical debt for residents of Pinellas County

St. Francis of Assisi Church

Medical Debt Relief Project

Deadline Goal: March 31, 2021

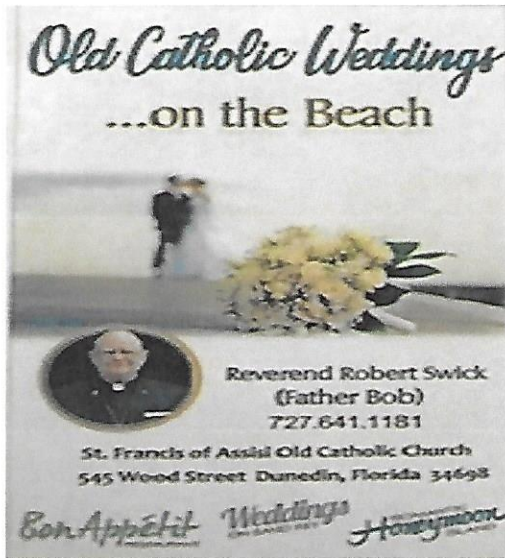
We request your assistance, and that of your friends and family, so that we may raise the remaining amount of

\$2,661.00

to reach our goal of \$15,000.00 which will erase \$1,500,000.00 of medical debt of Pinellas County residents.

**“Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers you do unto me”
Matthew 25:31-46**

Community Outreach and Involvement



Love is in the air!!

Do you know someone planning a wedding?

Consider a beautiful wedding on an amazing local beach performed by Fr. Bob



Community Membership **The Interfaith Ministry Group**

Father Bob participates in this group which meets on the third Wednesday of the month at a local restaurant in Dunedin. Standing invitations are held by ministers of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, First United Methodist Church, St. Mark Lutheran Church and, our very own, St. Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church.

Our parish is also a member of local faith and community organizations:



**St. Francis Old Catholic Church
Dunedin, FL**

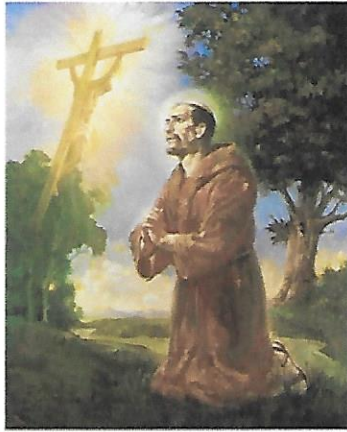


**Dunedin Council
of Organizations**



**Downtown Dunedin
Merchants Association**

**Saint Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church is a member of
TOCCUSA-Province of the United States and
The Old Catholic Church Diocese of the Southeast**



Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand
To be loved, as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
And it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life
Amen

Saint Francis Parish Council

Rev. Father Robert Swick-Clergy
fr_bob@priest.com

Marilyn Burton-Parish Lay Leader
Mfburton1@yahoo.com

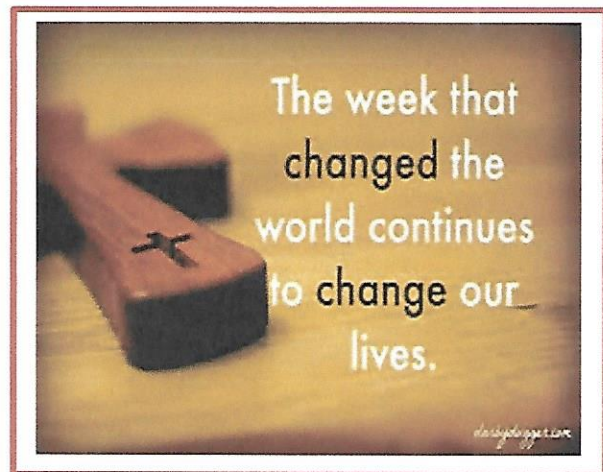
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Janiece Sistrunk
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Peter Kreuziger
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Stay in Touch with your Parish

Receive Homilies and Intercessory Prayers:

Homilies and Intercessory Prayers are emailed, after Sunday Mass, to a confidential list of those requesting.
If you or a friend would like to receive this information, please contact: rbsemperfi@gmail.com

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Phone: 727-641-1181 Website: www.saintfrancisdunedin.org