



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH

DUNEDIN, FL

Welcome-Come Worship with Us



Our parish is a member of the Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States.

We are called to be a sign of God's unconditional love, and joyfully, we open our doors and hearts to all who are seeking a spiritual home.

We are truly inclusive. A different way to be Catholic!

Mass is held on Sunday at 11:00 am

ALL are welcome!

Message from Father Bob:

The theme of the 24th Sunday in (Not So) Ordinary Time - To Love Selflessly - seems to be so out of place in today's atmosphere. To love selflessly? Really? And how does one propose to do so when we are so torn in our country on so many topics: My Rights versus the Common Good? Quit and walk away from a twenty year war that lost public interest how many years ago? To send our kids to school with masks or not? To get vaccinated or not? To participate in any kind of organized religion or not?

Jesus challenged his own disciples, essentially warning them that to follow in his footsteps would be anything but a walk in the park. And here we are twenty centuries later faced with the same challenges not just as Old Catholics but of all Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths. Yes, we all profess our faith in God and accept the responsibility to exercise that faith by our actions: To love selflessly.

As a Vietnam Veteran, I believe it is our responsibility to do everything as Vietnam Vets to embrace all post 9/11 Warriors assuring them their service was not for naught; that they are not alone and their noble objective - helping to keep America free from terrorism - held true. And I ask everyone who sees a serviceman or servicewoman in uniform to reach out and thank them for their service. And - with equal vigor - to do the same for all Veterans you happen to recognize.

We need to promote a higher standard than that which is one of open hatred. This has to stop. We all know this but all share in the same quandary: how can I help stop this? Well, at the risk of being called forever naive, we do this with kindness, with compassion, with unusual acts of neighborliness. When people we know start talking negatively about certain groups, challenge them in calm and kind ways. (Don't expect any outward change but know you've planted a seed.) Carry on good and faithful servants with, of course, random acts of kindness.

Blessings,

Father Bob





Month of Harvest

During September, as in all of Ordinary Time, the Liturgy does not focus on one particular mystery of Christ, but views the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. We follow the life of Christ through the Gospels, and focus on the teachings and parables of Jesus and what it means for us to be a follower of Christ. During Ordinary Time we can concentrate more on the saints and imitate their holiness as Christ's followers.

The Gospel readings for the Sundays in September 2021 are taken from St. Mark

| | |
|---|--|
| September 5th 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time | This Gospel relates the cure of a deaf man by Jesus. |
| September 12th 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time | Peter says "You are the Christ." Jesus talks about His coming passion. |
| September 19th 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time | In this Gospel Jesus says whoever receives one child in His name receives Him. |
| September 26th 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time | Jesus speaks against causing scandal and avoiding occasions of sin. |



Mass is held at Regency Oaks ALF Facility on Tuesdays at 10:00 am and at Regency Oaks on Sundays at 9:15 am
 Mass continues to be held at 11:00 am at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Church
 Mass at St. Roch at Rocky Creek Village is held on Saturdays at 4:00 pm

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.

Two Chalices will be available at Mass:

One for those who wish to drink directly from the chalice

The second is for those practicing "Intinction"-the Eucharistic practice of partially dipping the consecrated Host (Body of Christ) into the consecrated Wine (Blood of Christ) before consuming it.

Can't attend Mass?

Please contact Father Bob if you would wish to receive Communion at your home.



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!

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



Stay in Touch with your Parish

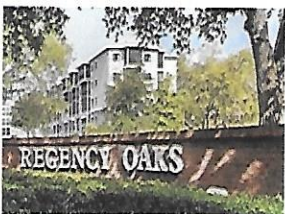
Receive Homilies and Intercessory Prayers:

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



For all who perished in the September 11, 2002 tragedy
For all the 9/11 First Responders: those who gave some and those who gave all
For all our Military Warriors who died in the two-decade War on Terrorism
For all who have died of this resurgence of the COVID virus
For the growing number of children becoming infected with COVID (presently 25% of hospitalized patients)
For all who serve and care for the COVID Victims
For the teachers who continue to educate the children in spite of the personal peril of exposure to COVID



Regency Oaks-St. Francis Extension

St. Francis at Sylvan Healthcare began Tuesday Mass for patients on September 7th
Regency Oaks resumed Sunday Mass at 9:15 am on September 12th.
All are grateful to have the doors open and Mass available again.



St. Roch at Rocky Creek Village, Tampa

St. Roch resumed gathering for Mass at 4:00 pm on September 11th.
What a memorable day!

In Memoriam
Masuko Harada Swick
Beloved Wife of Fr. Robert “Bob” Swick



**Two Priests were at their wedding-
One who spoke English and one who
Japanese so they both understood**



**Masuko Harada
Swick**



Masuko and Fr. Bob



Masuko and daughter, Mika



Masuko in Japan



**Grandson, Justin; daughter, Mika;
Masuko, Mary Kreuziger; Fr. Bob**

Masuko Harada of Dunedin, wife of Father Robert Swick, was born in Hiroshima, Japan. She passed away August 16, 2021. The Harada family traces back to the era of the Samurai, always as residents of Hiroshima. The oldest hospital in the city is named after her family. Masuko lost her parents in the atomic bomb that was dropped on their city. Fortunately, the Japanese children were kept in the countryside outside of Hiroshima proper, so they were spared. Decades later a young Marine was sent to the Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni, Japan. It wasn't long before fate brought them together. After a period of courtship, Masuko became the wife of Captain Robert Swick. That was fifty-four years ago.

Masuko's sense of adventure was fully captured as she relinquished her own culture to come to the United States: a change of language, customs, traditions; a separation of family and friends all to start a new chapter in her life. And so, it began!

After fifteen years another miracle/milestone evolved with the birth of Masuko and Bob's adopted daughter, Mika Christina. And, darling daughter was born on their wedding anniversary. (During Mika's "adventurous" periods growing up, we would comment to friends... "We enjoyed 15 years of bliss—and then we had Mika.")

Masuko gave of herself throughout life, quietly, not seeking recognition. She had a presence of grace and gentleness; and always seemed to leave a lasting impression. And she has!

May she rest in God's Eternal Peace beloved wife, mother, and grandmother to Justin.

Source: Veterans Funeral Care Obituary For more in-depth information see: Tampa Bay Times, Local and State, Epilogue- "She turned pain into many blessings"

Invitation to all St. Francis Parishioners
TOCCUSA Laity Classes

Sponsored by: The Old Catholic Diocese of the Southeast

As Parishioners at St. Francis Old Catholic Church, we come from a variety of religious backgrounds. Some come from a Roman Catholic background; others from Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian to name a few. While we love St. Francis and Fr. Bob, **do we really understand what it means to be an “Old Catholic?”** And no, it has nothing to do with age!

Starting Tuesday, Sept. 21st, all of us have the wonderful opportunity to become far more familiar with the Old Catholic Church and our Faith as practicing Old Catholics. The series runs for 5 weeks, always beginning at **7:00 pm and ending at 8:15 pm**. The subject matter is 45 minutes with the last 30 minutes for discussion. Following are the topics and information to participate via ZOOM. If you miss one, catch the others!

Sept. 21. *Old Catholic History*

Sept. 28. *The Trinity as Our Relational Model for Church*

Oct. 5. *Old Catholic Understanding of Being Church*

Oct 12. *Old Catholic Perspective of the Sacraments*

Oct 19. *Old Catholics and Stewardship*

The ZOOM Meeting ID: 85340546406 (updated)

Zoom Meeting Passcode: 408551

National Assembly 2022 Virtual Meeting
TOCCUSA-The Old Catholic Church,
Province of the United States

“Reimagining OUR Church”

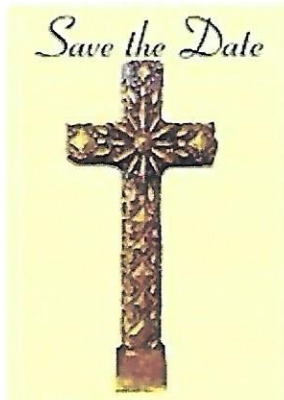
Friday, January 14 and Saturday, January 15

EVERYONE-laity and clergy are invited to participate in this interactive opportunity to shape the future of **OUR** church.
Be an **active participant** in helping to plan the future of the Old Catholic Church in the United States!

Registration form is attached or at: www.TOCCUSA.org

Deadline January 1, 2022

Suggested registration fee \$25.00 No one refused!



Did You Know?

TOCCUSA stands for The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States

The National Leadership Team is the Executive Council made up of: A Laity Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Members at Large representing the various Dioceses and a Bishop Advisor

There are **5 Dioceses across the United States**: Diocese of New England, Diocese of Mid-Atlantic, Diocese of the Midwest, Diocese of California, Diocese of the Southeast.

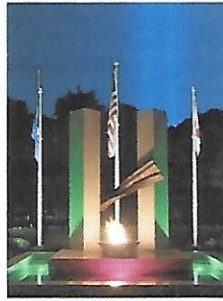
Saint Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church in Dunedin is a member of the Diocese of the Southeast.

Community Outreach and Involvement
Events in September

20th Anniversary of 9/11 Memorial Commemorations



**City of Dunedin
Commemoration
9/11**
Fire Station 61
903 Michigan Ave
Dunedin, FL
8:00 am



**Curlew Hills
Memory Gardens**
Palm Harbor, FL

September 11
10:00 am
*Space is limited



Remember, Honor, Support, Inc.
Due to COVID, 9/11 Patriot Day
Brunch moved to January 15,



Constitution and Citizenship Day * September 17 * We the People
Commemorates the formation and signing of the U. S. Constitution by thirty nine brave men on September 17, 1787. Caladesi Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (Dunedin) celebrates this day with a proclamation by the Dunedin City Council, flying the Constitution flag, and a local church service with DAR and SAR members in attendance.



POW MIA DAY * September 17
National POW/MIA Recognition Day is an observance that honors those who were prisoners of war (POW) as well as those who are still missing in action (MIA) and their families.
You are not forgotten!



International Day of Peace * September 21
This day is devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, within and between all nations and peoples. At a time when war and violence monopolize our news, this day of peace is an inspiring reminder of what we can create together, PEACE. Let's give it a chance.
Celebrate locally—Weaver Park, Dunedin at 6:30 pm--commemoration of the Peace Pole
Sponsored by United Faiths Walk of Peace



Gold Star Mother's Day * September 26
This is a day for us to recognize, honor, and pray for those who have lost a son or daughter while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The Gulf Coast Chapter includes Pinellas, Pasco and Hernando Counties works to perpetuate the noble principles for which their son's and daughter's fought and died.

Plan Ahead! Mark Your Calendars for a special event in October



**Pets and People
of all Faiths
are invited!**

Second Annual Blessing of the Pets
October 10, 2021 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Rain or Shine!

Father "Bob" Swick will **ble**s all pets!
Due to construction, this year's Blessing will be a drive thru event. Pet owners will stop in their car with open windows as their pets are blessed. Certificates will be given to the owners as they continue on their way.

Father Bob's "Toy San" looks forward to making new friends!





Treasurer Report for September 2021
From Candy Christensen-Barker, Treasurer

As of this writing, our checking account balance is \$3,564.65. and our savings account balance is \$7,500.73.

As you may have heard from Fr. Bob, the church council approved plans to beautify the grounds of the church and the adjacent property. We are working on getting bids and permits to purchase and install a flag pole in front of the church building, erect some fencing and low maintenance landscaping. As to the adjacent property, it cannot be used for parking due to easements and other restrictions. Therefore, we want to create a community garden with approximately 21 to 24 boxes, sized 4' by 8' that we will rent annually to Dunedin residents. We need to clear the property, trim bushes, remove trees, install a fence, have the garden boxes built and irrigated. The approximate cost for all of these projects is \$30,000. The building fund has a current balance of \$6,501.19.

In order to move forward with our plans, we will need to begin a fundraising campaign soon. We pray that we received the same generosity for our own church that we witnessed for the R.I.P. Medical Debt Relief project. More news to come!

As a reminder, we make it easy to donate in a safe and secure way. You may:

- *Send a personal check, payable to St. Francis of Assisi to the address on the last page.
- *If you bank online, create a recurring account for St. Francis of Assisi to have a check mailed on a certain day.
- *Visit the St. Francis of Assisi website at: saintfrancisdunedin.org and make a one-time donation for the month or set up a monthly recurring donation using PayPal or a credit card.

Blessings,

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

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**

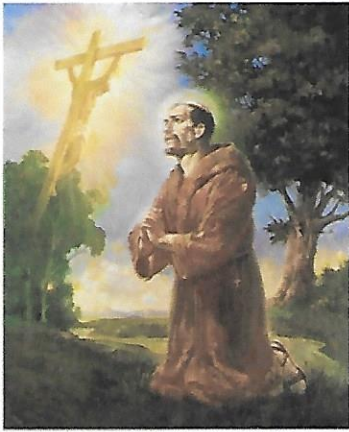
Saint Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church is a member of:



**The Old Catholic Church
Diocese of the Southeast**



**TOCCUSA
The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States**



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
rbsemperfi@gmail.com

Marilyn Burton-Parish Lay Leader
Mfburton1@yahoo.com

Candy Christensen-Barker-Treasurer
Gator80girl@yahoo.com

Ellen Hale
ehale@bonappetitrestaurant.com

Marc Norton-Acolyte
m.norton@tampabayveteransalliance.org

Janiece Sistrunk
Jansis5678@gmail.com

Peter Kreuziger
pkreuziger@bonappetitgroup.com

Serving God by serving others!

Saint Francis Parish

Music-Piano: Kathy Roberts
Music Vocalist: Roseanne DeMarco
Bulletin: Cheryl Rennekar, Janet Nelch

Old Catholic Church Diocese of the Southeast

Synod Delegates House of Laity:
Marilyn Burton, Marc Norton

Synod Delegate to House of Clergy:
Rev. Fr. Robert "Bob" Swick

TOCCUSA- The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States

Chairperson, Ministry of Communications
Candy Christensen-Barker

Executive Council, Interim Chairperson
Cheryl Rennekar

Stay in Touch with your Parish

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St. Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church Parish
545 Wood Street Dunedin, FL 34698
Phone: 727-641-1181 Website: www.saintfrancisdunedin.org



National Assembly 2022 Virtual Meeting

“Reimagining OUR Church!”

Friday, January 14th & Saturday, January 15th

REGISTRATION

Name _____

Diocese _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I am a Delegate (Delegates will be chosen by each Diocese)

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There is a suggested registration donation of \$25.00.

(If you wish to donate more to cover the registration for someone else,
we would be grateful for your generosity!)

NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY FOR FINANCIAL REASONS!

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All checks (made out to “TOCCUSA” and this registration form must be mailed to:

Rev. Rosemary Burdick, 45 West Bay Road, Prospect Harbor, ME 04669

DEADLINE: January 1, 2022

This registration form is also available on the TOCCUSA website
www.TOCCUSA.org where you can pay online with PayPal

I registered and paid online

(EMAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO rosemary.burdick2@aol.com)