



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH DUNEDIN, FL

Welcome-Come Worship with Us

Our parish is a member of the Old Catholic Communion
and the Diocese of the Southeast.

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:

Welcome back to our Bulletin. It's been a while since our authors and editors, Cheryl and Jan, have been able to publish a bulletin. These two dedicated parishioners have gone through so much in the interim! On the Church-front, Cheryl was one of the two principal designers of our recent historical National Assembly (as well as wearing the mantle of Lay Leader of the Church's Council). And all the while, Jan has endured another surgery and recovery in her extraordinary battle with cancer. Both have achieved success for which we thank and congratulate them. We thank our most Merciful and Caring God for watching over Jan and Cheryl.

As of this writing we have concluded the fifth week of Lent and are about to join Jesus on His Passion Journey. And we will be doing so with far more participation this year. The journey begins with Mass on Palm Sunday, regular times, with the blessing and distribution of palms.

Celebrating the Easter Triduum later in the week, we will begin with evening Mass at 7:00 pm on Holy Thursday. Our Mass will include washing of the feet. This commemorates Jesus' humble example to the Apostles showing them the way to be servants of God. This Good Friday we will be participating in an ecumenical "Walking the Stations of the Cross" with the sponsors, The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, and other faith groups. The details can be found elsewhere in this bulletin. Holy Saturday Vigil will be at St. Roch's parish in Tampa. And, Easter Sunday's Masses have slightly different times and I ask you to check the details on the first page of the bulletin.

Last year I spoke of our need to be more humble before God and repent our sins. Doing so allows us to experience the compassion of Jesus. This year is no different for we all need to be more humble, more kind and loving to one another. We truly express our love for God through our actions. Our world needs more love – and that love, that peace on Earth, can only happen when our actions express our love for one another. So, as we enter into Passion Week and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter, let's do so with a deeper sense of humility and love of God.

Father Bob





The month of April 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. The remainder of April falls during the Easter Season which is represented by the liturgical color white—the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.



The Gospel readings for April are taken from St. John and St. Luke

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| April 3rd 5th Sunday of Lent | Jesus forgives the woman taken in adultery: “Let the one among you who is without sin, be the first to throw a stone at her.” |
| April 10th Palm Sunday of the Lord’s passion | The reading of the Passion of Our Lord from St. Luke’s Gospel |
| April 17th Easter Sunday | Gospel recounts the women and the Apostles’ visits to the empty tomb of Christ on Easter morning. |
| April 24th 2nd Sunday of Easter of Divine Mercy | Jesus appears to the Apostles after the Resurrection and the relating the doubt of St. Thomas |



Palm Sunday, April 10th-Mass
 Regency Oaks 9:15 am; St. Francis Parish 11:00 am

Holy Thursday, April 14th-Washing of the Feet
 7:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Good Friday, April 15th-Walking Stations of the Cross
 12:00 noon-at the Dunedin Trail-sponsored by Church of the Good Shepherd

Holy Saturday, April 16th-Easter Vigil
 4:00 pm at St. Roch, Rocky Creek Village in Tampa

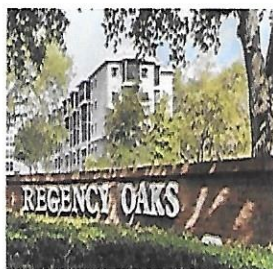
Easter Sunday, April 17th-Resurrection of the Lord
 Regency Oaks at **9:30 am** (coffee social afterward)
 St. Francis of Assisi Parish **12:00 noon** (coffee social afterward)

PRAYER Requests



- +Prayers for Marilyn Burton's recovery from kidney stones.
- +Prayers for healing for Pianist Kathy Roberts as she recovers from back surgery.
- +We pray for our dear friends at St. Roch as they deal with the challenge of the closure of the ALF portion of their Rocky Creek Village.
- +Pray for Dorothy, Spiritual Director for Bishop Michael Scalzi, as she begins her final journey here on earth. May Mother Mary bring her our Savior, Jesus.
- +Prayers for Peace in Ukraine and throughout the world.
- +Prayers for the Russian citizens who are protesting the war and for the Americans being held in Russian prisons.
- +Pray for a renewed sense of peace and love in our own country

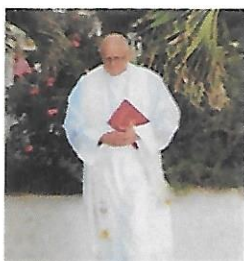
Saint Francis Extension at Regency Oaks and St. Roch Old Catholic Church at Rocky Creek Village



St. Roch at Rocky Creek, Tampa
Holy Saturday-April 16th, Easter Vigil -4:00 pm

Regency Oaks

Palm Sunday, April 10th, Mass-9:15 am
Easter Sunday, April 17th Mass-9:30 am with coffee social after Mass



Congratulations!

Father Robert "Bob" Swick
10th 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 10 years of service and ask
 You to bless us with many more years with
 our beloved Priest.

Ordained a Priest
March 31, 2012



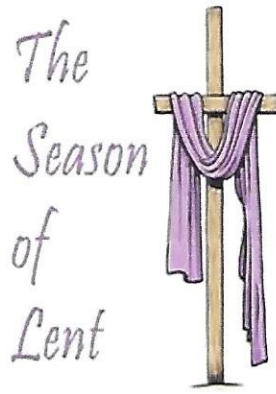
Ash Wednesday

Fr. Bob & Kimberly Scalzi at Janet O' Day's Memorial Mass, Maine



Lent 2022

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 2) and ends on Holy Thursday (April 14). 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

Spirit of the Living God; give me a prayer that intensifies my love for you.
Help me to fast from the distractions and diversions that offer a false sense of security.
Break open my heart in charitable acts of generosity.
May all my Lenten practices set me on fire with peace, love, and justice.
Amen.

LENT: A Season for Fasting and Feasting

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling within them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; feast on trust.

Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.

Fast from unrelenting pressures; feast on unceasing prayer.

Fast from hostility; feast on nonviolence.

Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.

Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth.

Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.

Fast from facts that depress; feast on truths that uplift.

Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken; feast on promises that inspire.

Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.

Gentle God,

During this season of fasting and feasting,

gift us with Your Presence,

so we can be a gift to others

in carrying out Your work.

Amen.

Source: Old Catholics of the Southeast-Facebook; Bishop Steven Roszczewski

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!"



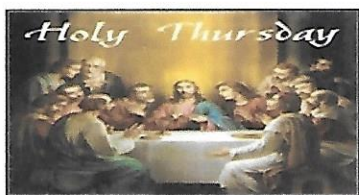
When Jesus arrived at the temple in Jerusalem, it was full of corrupt money changers. He overturned tables and cleared the Temple, saying, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be a house of prayer' but you have turned it into a den of thieves." (Luke 19:46)



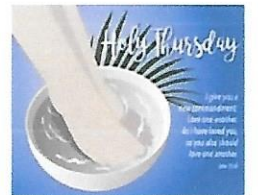
On the way to the Temple, Jesus avoided an ambush where they intended to put him under arrest. Later, Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives which overlooks Jerusalem. Jesus gave the Olivet Discourse and his prophecy of His end times, His Second Coming and the final judgement.



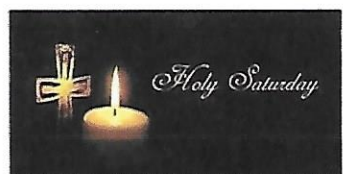
This Wednesday is also known as "Spy Wednesday", during which Judas acted as a spy for Sanhedrin. Judas accepted payment of 30 pieces of silver for information that led to the betrayal of Jesus Christ. Jesus was anointed with expensive alabaster by a woman in Bethany, in the house of leper, Simon.



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)



YOU ARE INVITED
Good Friday, April 15th-Walking Stations of the Cross
12:00 noon-at the Dunedin Trail, downtown Dunedin
Sponsored by the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

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



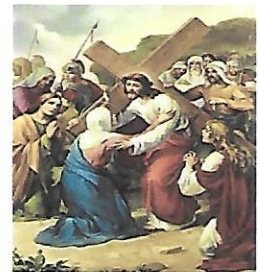
First Station
Jesus Is Condemned to death



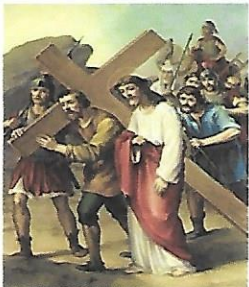
Second Station
Jesus Carries His Cross



Third Station
Jesus Falls the First Time



Fourth Station
Jesus Meets His Blessed Mother



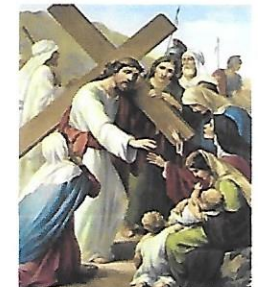
Fifth Station
Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry His Cross



Sixth Station
Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus



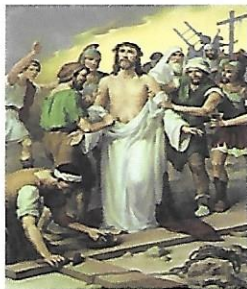
Seventh Station
Jesus Falls a Second Time



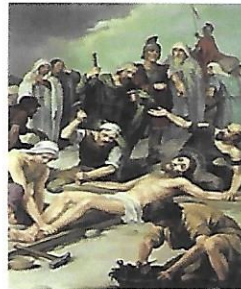
Eighth Station
Jesus Speaks to the Women of Jerusalem



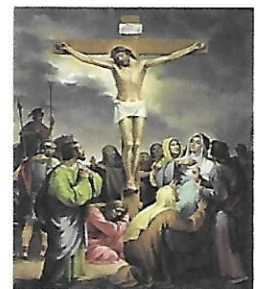
Ninth Station
Jesus Falls for the Third Time



Tenth Station
Jesus is Stripped of His Garments



Eleventh Station
Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

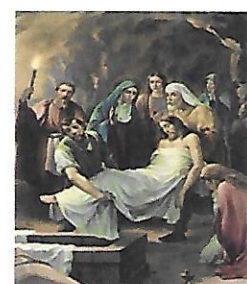


Twelfth Station
Jesus Dies on the Cross



Thirteenth Station
Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

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



Fourteenth Station
Jesus is Placed in the Tomb



Why are Lent and Easter so late this year?



Christian tradition establishes the holiday on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox, the start of spring. That means Easter can fall anywhere from March 22 to April 25. This year, the first full moon of spring—the Paschal full moon, occurs on Saturday April 16, pushing Easter to the 17th. It is the first Easter on this date since 1960!



Treasurer Report for April 2022 From Candy Christensen-Barker, Treasurer

Since it has been a number of months since my last report, I want to share our fiscal year end 2021 financial status as well as what we have collected through March 2022.

For the 12 months ending 12/31/21, St. Francis of Assisi collected \$27,927. in cash donations and interest income. Church expenses totaled \$14, 715. leaving us with a net income of \$13, 212. Total assets as of year-end 2021 totaled \$20,676. Our checking and savings account balances totaled \$14, 059. while an additional savings account was opened and is reserved for property improvements only, with a current balance of \$6,617.

For the first three months of 2022, St. Francis has collected \$6,341. in donations and has spent \$2,510. in outgoing expenses adding \$3,831. to our bank account balances.

We are in good financial state, able to meet our expenses. With the passing of our landlord and the unknown status of our church's ownership, we are working with the City of Dunedin to determine our future here. In the meantime, the city is happy with our tenancy and does not want to see us leave. Until the ownership of our building and the two adjacent lots is established, we have been advised not to make any more improvements. We will keep you updated as we learn more.

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.
- Set up a monthly recurring donation using PayPal or a credit card.

In gratitude,

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

Community Outreach and Involvement



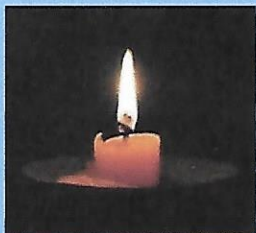
Dunedin Ministerial Alliance Prayer Vigil for Ukraine March 7, 2022 6:30 pm-7:30 pm Pioneer Park

Sponsored by Saint Francis of Assisi Old Catholic Church
First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin
First United Methodist Church of Dunedin
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd



Additional Outreach for Ukraine

Pray for Ukraine



Prayer by the Benedictine nuns of Jamberoo Abbey

There is a beautiful chant from the isle of Iona which simply prays -
"Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away."

Sometimes, in the midst of terror and grief and incomprehension, kindling a flame is all we can do to keep the darkness at bay and our hope alive.

Today, we kindle that flame for our sisters and brothers in Ukraine, we kindle it for those who have died and their loved ones, for those on the front lines, those hunkered down in bomb shelters, the many walking for hours in freezing weather as they try to escape the violence, the injured, the terrified, the lost, the broken, the children ... and, we kindle a flame, forever and always, in hope, in prayer, in longing for peace...Hear us, O God and help us.
Amen.

Pic: Our Lady of Kyiv Source: ECC Newsletter 3/22

Relief at the Poland/Ukraine Border

The Ecumenical Catholic Council, brother in Poland, Bishop-elect Tomasz Puchalski, OSB, along with his community members are on the frontline assisting in providing support to Ukrainian refugees seeking safety in Poland.

If you are inclined to donate financially, Tomasz has recommended supporting the Dominican Sisters who are working at the border supplying the Ukrainians entering Poland with water, food and other basic needs.

A link to donate is on their Facebook page:
<https://m.facebook.com/fundacjadorominikanek>
Their website:
<https://fundacjadorominikanek.pl/ukraina/>

Thank you Peter Veich, OSB for this information.

Please share.

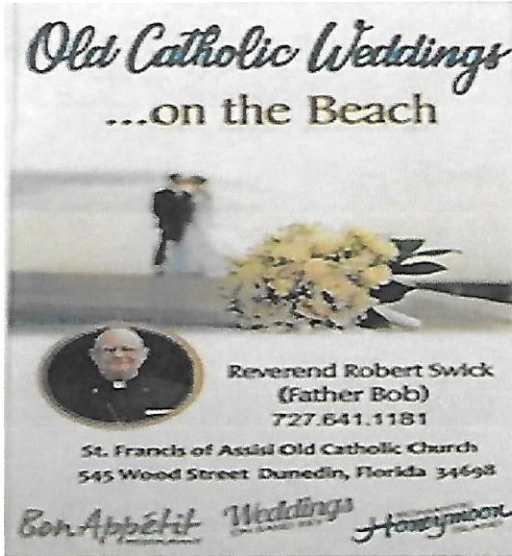
Source: House of Laity Newsletter, ECC, March 2022

A BETTER WORLD



Founder, Dr. Mello is a supporter of our Catholic Church and a friend of our OCC Bishop Michael Scalzi. This organization facilitates adoptions of Ukrainian children. They are sending food, clothing, and providing for transportation to safety for children in orphanages being bombed in Ukraine. Assist at: <https://www.abwadoption.org/>


Additional 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-The Dunedin Ministerial Alliance

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**

**(Logo being designed)
Old Catholic Communion**



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

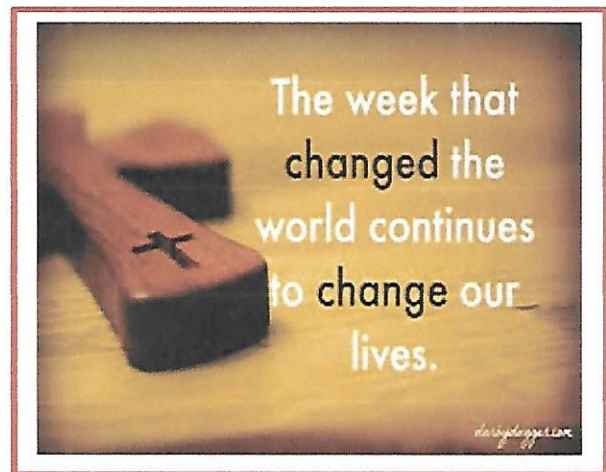
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Ellen Hale
ehale@bonappetitrestaurant.com

Marc Norton-Acolyte
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Janiece Sistrunk
Jansis5678@gmail.com

Peter Kreuziger
pkreuziger@bonappetitgroup.com



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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