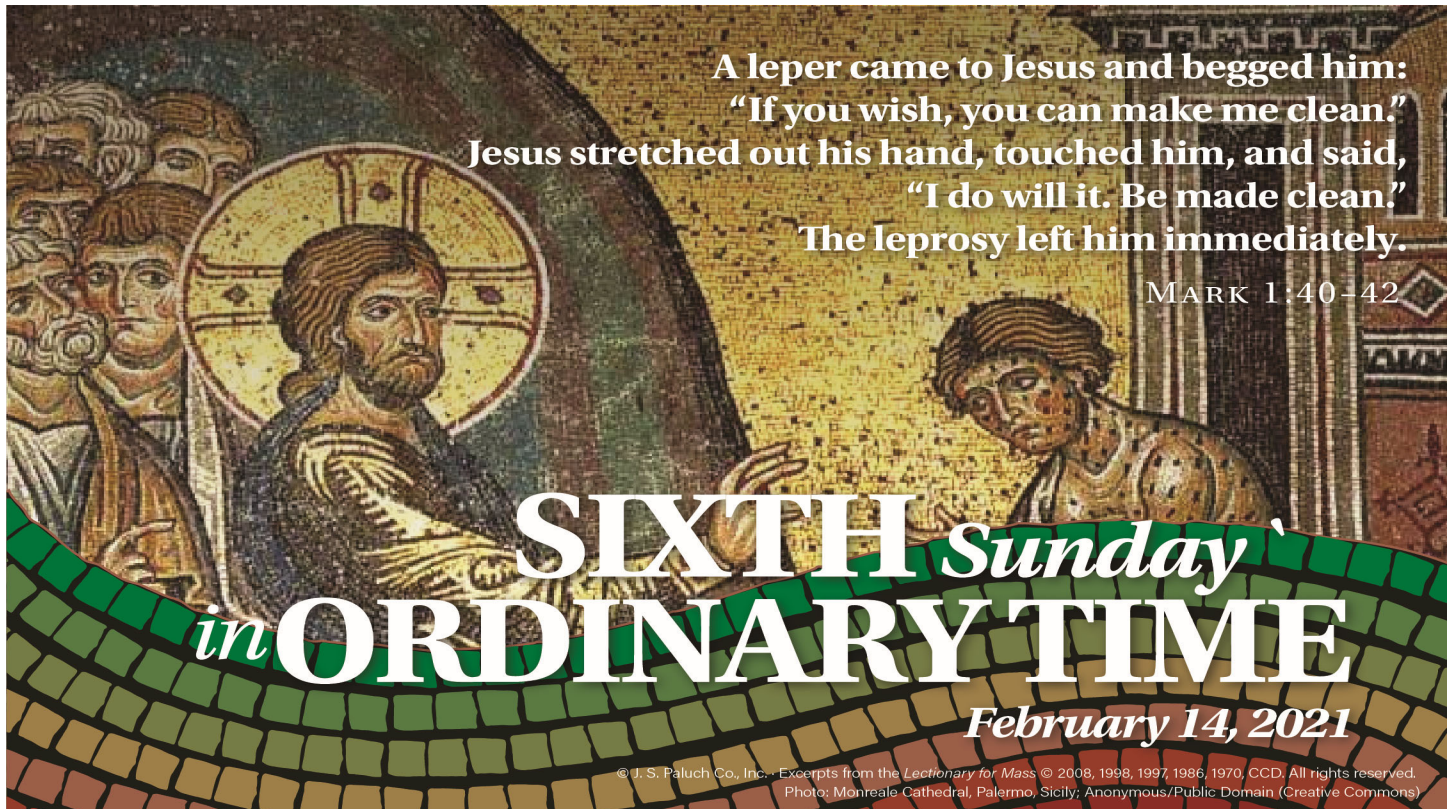


EMMANUEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

15700 S Military Trail, Delray Beach, FL 33484 • www.emmanuelcatholic.church • (561) 496-2480



OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday
8:00am - 4:00pm

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Thursday 7:30am & 8:30am
Friday: 7:30am, 8:30am & 6:00pm
Saturday: 8:30am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES

4:00pm
5:30pm

SUNDAY MASSES

7:30am
9:00am
10:30am
12:00pm
6:00pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every first Friday from 9:00am—5:55pm
Followed by the 6:00pm Mass

TAIZÉ PRAYER

Every Friday at 6:30pm—7:30pm
(after 6:00pm Mass) except for First Fridays.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Anointing of the sick every Thursday following
the 8:30am Mass, or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

3rd Sunday of the month 1:00pm. Schedule one month in
Advance. Contact Deacon Tony

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday 8am-2pm
Tuesday Closed
Thursday & Friday 8am-1pm
Saturday 3:30pm-6:00pm
Sunday 10:00am-1:30pm

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

Every Thursday at 2:30pm with Benediction

ROSARY GROUP

Monday—Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: Following the 8:30am Mass,
3:15-3:45pm & 5:00-5:20pm, or by appointment

*Welcome to Emmanuel Catholic Church
Parish Family
God is with us*

Parish Mission Statement

Emmanuel Catholic Church which means, God is with us, is a faithful community of believers dedicated to proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by the Roman Catholic Church through word, sacrament, and service. As one parish family of God, we live by faith, truth, and love as we value the sanctity of life in all its stages and make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the consultation with our parish ministries, we desire to be witnesses of God's presence as we share our gifts of time, talent, and treasure with God's Family.

Parish Organizational Chart

Most Reverend Gerald M Barbarito

Bishop of Palm Beach

Rev. Gaudioso Zamora

Pastor

Clergy

Parish Vicar Rev: Theodore Ihedoro

Deacon: Deacon Anthony Cuseo

In Resident: Rev. Joseph Papes

Weekday & Weekend Associates:

Msgr. Leonard Badia & Rev. Timothy Canaan

Weekend Associate: Rev. David Carr

Staff

Bookkeeper: Simi Sahu

Secretary: Stella Sadolfo

Receptionist: Maria Steger

Property Manager: Edward Shannon

<h3>Parish Pastoral Council</h3>	<h3>Parish Finance Council</h3>
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Parish Ministries

RCIA & Sacramental Preparation: Dcn. Tony Cuseo

Religious Education: Jean Krokus

Children of Divine Mercy: Melissa & Annette

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Fr. Theo

Lectors: Fr. Theo Hospitality/ Ushers:

Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

Altar Servers:

Music: Linda Coz, Bill Stafford,

Clanaven Baldonado & Mens Choir

Altar Flowers: Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

Altar & Clergy Vestments:

Maryann DiBiase, Carol Chapman & Nancy McDonald

Homebound: Joan J. Saccio

Hospital Ministry: Fr. Theo

Youth Group:

Gift Shop: Gail Sullivan

Parish Organizations

Ladies Guild: President Patti Gomez

Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight Bob Albertson

Humble Prayer

Everything that happens in today's Gospel is very impressive. Let's see what we can learn from this wonderful story. Mark writes, "A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, 'If you will to do so, you can make me clean.'" Before we precede any further, let us ask ourselves a simple question: why did the leper approach Jesus? As a Jew, he must have known the law clearly described in Leviticus. A person inflicted with this disease must tear his clothes and leave his hair disorderly. And when he approaches people, he must cry out, "Unclean, unclean!" (13:46). Not only that, because the disease is highly infectious, the leper must live apart, "outside the camp" (13:46). This tells us, of course, that lepers must have been very lonely people. They could not associate with anyone, only other lepers.

Let us return to our original question: why did the leper approach Jesus? One can imagine that he had heard that Jesus was a holy man with healing power. And so, even though he knew that he was breaking the law by going close to Jesus, he took courage and came near.

When we think of it, his behavior is remarkable. Mark writes that he knelt down before Jesus. This certainly is a very humble act. As we know, when they pray, Jews either stand or sit; they never kneel down. The only ones who would kneel like this before someone else would be slaves before their master. So in kneeling down, the man shows great humility. Then Mark writes that the leper begged Jesus and said, "If you will to do so, you can make me clean." The way the man speaks to Jesus full of humble desire—makes a deep impression on him. And so, to heal him and to show his compassion, Jesus, "moved with pity, stretches out his hand, touches him, and says, 'I do will it. Be cured!'" Immediately, the leprosy leaves the man and he is made clean.

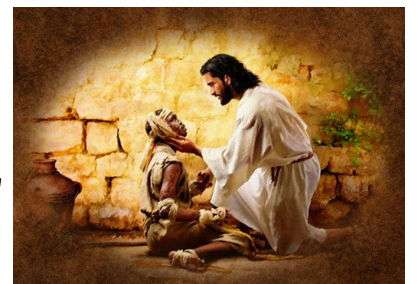
The next part of the story is also important. After Jesus cures the man, he sternly orders him not to tell anyone about his cure. Jesus said this, we know, in order to avoid being seen merely as a miracle worker, a sort of doctor with magical power. If people would only see him in this way, they might very well go to him just to be cured, forgetting the more difficult task of reforming their lives.

Jesus then tells the man to report to the priest. In this way, as required by Jewish law, the man can make his cure official. Having been certified by the priest that he is now clean, the man can now mingle freely with people.

What we see in the Gospel, actually, is the example of two different men who are both very humble. The leper shows his humility in the way he begs Jesus for healing; Jesus shows his humility in the way he tries to avoid the acclamation of the crowds and in his desire to be seen not as a miracle worker, but as a servant of God, trying his best to do God's will.

In giving us this story, surely, Mark wants to emphasize the importance of asking Jesus what we need with the right attitude. We too can win his mercy by praying to him with a humble heart.

God is not indifferent to our pain and suffering, as we sometimes think. God wills to liberate us from sickness, poverty, emotional disturbance, spiritual dryness, and other afflictions. But, perhaps, we should own our weakness and need of God's power, approach God personally, and beg for what exactly we want, imitating the leper: "Lord, if you wish, you can cure me of my present affliction." Let us not hesitate to approach Jesus and ask of him what we want.



February 14th, 2021 - Directory & Weekly Mass Schedule

14 SUNDAY

- 7:30am** Theresa Pavin by A.M & †Genaro Chaves by Chaves Family
9:00am *Dwayne Fernandes by Betty & Braz Fernandes & Poor Souls in Purgatory by —— & *For Prayers by ——
10:00am †Alan Warren by Fran Ferrara & *For Living & Deceased 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Council 2003
10:30am Parishioners & Benefactors
12:00pm †Victor & Angelina Pacienza by Christine & John & †Raymond Maragni by Jean McGrath
6:00pm Thomas Eich & Dorothy by Bob Budd & *Discepolo Family by Angela

15 MONDAY

- 7:30am** †Frank Donnino by Mom & †Genaro Chaves by Chaves Family
8:30am †Concetta & Rosario by Daughter, Rose

16 TUESDAY

- 7:30am** †George Marino by Katherine Gilberg & †Anna Luisa Garcia by Cannon Family
8:30am †Cristina & Crescenzo Rosato Family by Granddaughter & *Karl W. Reiman by Lynn Victor

17 WEDNESDAY

- 7:30am** †Joseph DeBoise by Martina DeBoise & *St. Joseph, Thanksgiving by Rice-Motta Family
9:00am †Abronzino Family by Angela & †Janice Goatly by Vera Marie
10:30am Pacienza & Rosato Families by Christine & John & *Murielle Berlus by ——
12:00pm †Steven Skolinsky by Natalie Skolinsky & †Frances & Rudy Biola by Angela & Mark Biola
4:00pm †Victor Fusco by Betty Karnell
6:00pm †Br. Lawrence Viele, MSC by Linda & Ed Dimarco & †Oreste & Linda Viele by Linda & Ed Dimarco

18 THURSDAY

- 7:30am** †Frank Donnino by Mom & †Augusto Villa Santos by Cannon Family
8:30am †Vincent J. Facciuto by Miriam Diiorio & †Vincent J. Facciuto by Andy & Sundra Wentzler
12:00pm June Kowrach by Loving Husband & †Josephine Carvill by Tom & Cathy Tripi

19 FRIDAY

- 7:30am** †Percy Cannon Sr. by Cannon Family & †Carlos & Angela Henriod by Cannon Family
8:30am †Vincent J. Facciuto by —— †Elizabeth Quinones by Connie Sinobio
12:00pm †Esther Weisberg by Eva Marcou
6:00pm For Priests

20 SATURDAY

- 8:30am** John & Annie Plummer Family by —— & *Andrew & Janet Plummer Family by ——
4:00pm Intentions of the Book of the Dead
5:30pm †Margherita Panzera by Phil Panzera & †Jack Scaccio by Knights of Columbus

21 SUNDAY

- 7:30am** †Angie & Albert Verile by Albert Jr. & *Theresa Pavin by A.M
9:00am †Michael & Dennis Kosineski by Bob & Paulin & †Frank Giaquinto by Wife
10:00am For Living & Deceased 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Council 2003 by Al Attard
10:30am Parishioners & Benefactors
12:00pm †Justine Suto & Suto Family by Tiffany Cifone & *DCA Appeals Judges & Lawyers by Anouck Camarchioli
6:00pm †Robert "Bobby" Farina by Wife & †Joseph Ippolitti by Liberatore Family

Unscheduled Mass Intentions

Margie Giaquinto	by Ladies Guild
Margie Giaquinto	by Jen Mack
Margie Giaquinto	by Anne Marie Rivieccio
Margie Giaquinto	by Miriam Diiorio
James P. Furlong 2nd, MD	by Deb & Andy Phelan
Thomas Fioto	by Grandmother, Rose

Prayer List

Jennifer Johnson	Rosemary Anne Perkins
Carol Venezia	Mrs. Irene D'Annunci
Sal Venezia	James Borello (Age 10)
Sarah	Chad Brisson
Anna	Anne Eitelman
Doady Formasari	Ken Eitelman
Raymond Birkbeck	Beth

Weekly Updates

Our Weekly Offertory

<u>Weekend Collection</u>	<u>February 7, 2020</u>
Offertory Collection:	\$14,229
Second Collection:	\$1,546
TOTAL:	\$15,775
Children's Mass:	\$107

Gift Shop

Gift shop now open during the week days!
 Facial coverings or masks are required. We ask that
 only 2 parishioners come in at a time.
 Monday's and Wednesdays from 8am-2pm

Tuesdays closed
 Thursday and Fridays
 8am-1pm
 Saturday 3:30pm-6:00pm
 Sunday 10:00am-1:30pm



Flowers & Lights For The Altar

ALTAR FLOWERS

For the Intentions of Theresa Pavin by A.M

VIGIL LIGHTS

For the Intentions of Theresa Pavin by A.M

SHRINE FLOWERS

For the Intentions of Emmanuel Parish

Parish Events This Week

- 15 Monday**
6:20am Adoration
- 16 Tuesday**
6:20am Adoration
10:00am Faith Sharing
- 17 Wednesday**
6:20am Adoration
- 18 Thursday**
6:20am Adoration
10:00am Bible Study
- 19 Friday**
6:20am Adoration
6:30pm Taizé
- 20 Saturday**
9:00am Confession

Weekly Readings & Saints of the Day

- 15 Monday**
Presidents' Day
Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
- 16 Tuesday**
Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
- 17 Wednesday**
Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving
Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;
2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- 18 Thursday**
Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
- 19 Friday**
Abstinence
Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
- 20 Saturday**
Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Announcements

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The season of Lent is mentioned in the Catechism of the Catholic Church in various sections.

It is brought up in #540 in the section that explains Christ's public ministry.

#540 "Jesus' temptation reveals the way in which the Son of God is Messiah, contrary to the way Satan proposes to him and the way men wish to attribute to him (see Mt 16:21-23).

In #1095, Lent is discussed in regards to the way in which the Church, especially in its liturgy, sees Christ prefigured in various ways in the Old Testament.

#1095 "... the Church, especially during Advent and Lent and above all at the Easter Vigil, re-reads and re-lives the great events of salvation history in the 'today' of her liturgy. But this also demands that catechesis help the faithful to open themselves to this spiritual understanding of the economy of salvation as the Church's liturgy reveals it and enables us to live it."

Finally, in #1438, the penitential nature of Lent is discussed in the section on the sacrament of reconciliation.

#1438 "The seasons and days of penance in the course of the liturgical year (Lent, and each Friday in memory of the death of the Lord) are intense moments of the Church's penitential practice."

"This is why Christ vanquished the Tempter for us: 'For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sinning' (Heb 4:15). By the solemn forty days of Lent, the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert."

Prayer Before Communion

O Lord, I believe and profess that you are truly Christ, Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as a partaker of your mystical supper O Son of God. May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord, be not for judgement or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is a truly your most precious Body & Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

Ash Wednesday Schedule

Ash Wednesday schedule of Masses and Imposition of Ashes

Times

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00noon,
4:00 & 6:00pm

To make us safe, there will be overflow Masses in Columbus Hall if necessary.

As suggested from the congregation for sacraments in Rome, this year we will be sprinkling the ashes upon the crown of the head, which is the practice in Rome.

Fast & Abstinence

Every Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

Abstinence

Every Friday of Lent

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday of Lent
9:00am and 5:30pm inside the Church

Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Religious Education

Important Note Please Read

For all students receiving First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation please ensure you bring a copy of your Baptismal Certificate to your next class. This is required in order to receive the sacraments. If you were baptized in Emmanuel Catholic Church, you only need to provide the date of your Baptism.

2021 Confirmation Details

For all Confirmation Candidates including those students who deferred receiving their confirmation in 2020.

Saturday March 6th Confirmation Retreat
arrival time 8:20-1:00pm

The retreat will begin with 8:30am mass (Parents Please have your children to mass on time or early). The students will then meet in Columbus Hall for their retreat. A snack will be provided after mass, as well as lunch. The parents can pick up their children at 1:00 pm. Please be on time

Tuesday March 9th, arrival time 6:00pm
Confirmation Practice in the church

6:00pm-7:30pm. Sponsors and students must attend

Saturday March 13th, 2021 arrival time 5:00pm
Confirmation with Most Reverend Barbarito 5:30pm Mass. All students must arrive at 5:00pm
These dates are mandatory for all Confirmation students.

Kindergarten-5th & 6th-9th Grade

Religious Education Schedule

Kindergarten-5th grade:	6th -9th grade
February 21 st , 28 th	February 21 st
April 11 th , 18 th , 25 th	March 21 st
	April 11 th & 18 th

Please note this schedule is subject to change. We will provide updates based on changes due to Covid.

Class Schedule for 2021

Class Schedule

February:

21st, 28th

March:

7th, 21st, 28th

April:

11th, 18th, 25th

Last day of classes are scheduled for April 25th. This date is subject to change in connection to mandated changes that arise due to COVID 19

There will be no classes on March 14th due to spring break and April 3rd due to Easter.

Sacrament Dates:

These dates and times are mandatory for all those receiving the sacraments.

First Reconciliation Students:

Good Shepherd Retreat Saturday February 20th, 2021 8:00am-12:00pm in large classroom

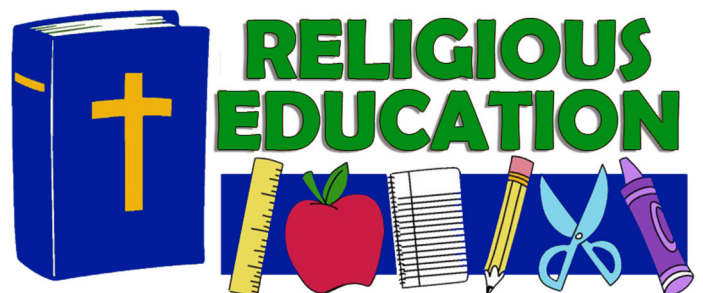
First Reconciliation Saturday February 27th, 2021 at 10:00am in the church students and families attend.

Jesus Day Retreat:

Saturday April 24th, 2021 8:00am - 12:00pm in the classroom

First Holy Communion:

Saturday May 1st at 10:00am in the church. Students to report directly to Columbus Hall by 9:30am.



Announcements

2021 Emmanuel Parish Raffle Sponsorship

Prize	Dollar Amount	Sponsor	Complimentary Tickets
First Prize	\$4,000	Anonymous: Thank you!	96
Second Prize	\$2,000	Anonymous: Thank you!	48
Third Prize	\$1,000	Msgr. Leonard Badia	24
Fourth Prize	\$500	Deacon Tony & Fr. Zamora	12
Consolation Prize #1	\$200	Barbara Rossi	6
Consolation Prize #2	\$200	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Brogan	6
Consolation Prize #3	\$200	PA Snow Angel: Thank you!	6
Consolation Prize #4	\$200	Anonymous: Thank you!	6
Consolation Prize #5	\$200	Anonymous: Thank you!	6
Consolation Prize #6	\$200	Lauren & Lourdes A.	6
Consolation Prize #7	\$200	Robert Bonney	6
Consolation Prize #8	\$200	Anonymous: Thank you!	6
Consolation Prize #9	\$200	Anonymous: Thank you!	6
Consolation Prize #10	\$200	Anonymous: Thank you!	6

Flea Market

Flea Market drop off will be on the Tuesday the 16th and Tuesday the 23rd only from 9am - 12noon.

Drop off the items at the driveway next to Columbus Hall.

We will not be taking any large items.

Please no furniture.

Lenten Fish Fry

Every Friday of Lent from 4:30-6:30 we will have a fish fry.

Tickets are \$10 at the door and the meals includes baked or fried fish, coleslaw, & French fries



TAKE OUT ONLY

The Knights of Columbus

To all the men of our parish. The Knights of Columbus will conduct it's annual membership drive on the weekend of February 13th & 14th, after all the Masses.

If you are considering joining our council at Emmanuel Catholic Church, please speak to the brother Knights in the blue shirts. They will be covering all the doors during Masses on the weekends.

For more information please contact Scotty Cassidy at scottytrvl@aol.com

Bible Study, Faith Sharing & More

- Monday at the Movies Monday at 1 pm
- Faith Sharing Tuesdays at 10 am
- Bible Study Thursday at 10 am
- Grief Support group second and fourth Thursdays of month at 1:00 pm
- School of Christian Formation is starting on Wednesday February 24th-April 27th and will begin at 2pm. The class will be in the big class room and over Zoom. The Instructure is Janine Dickson. Please call the parish office to sign up.

MEMORIALIZE

Your Loved One

Emmanuel Catholic Church is currently offering remaining. 9 Entry Doors, 2 fixed glass and sacristy windows to memorialize your loved one.

Donation \$4,999.99

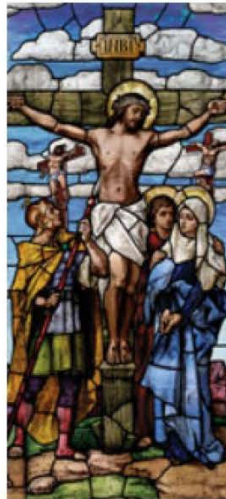
Each includes a Leaf On "Giving Tree." Most images are 26x" x 65" Doors.



Deluxe Medallion 13
Pentecost



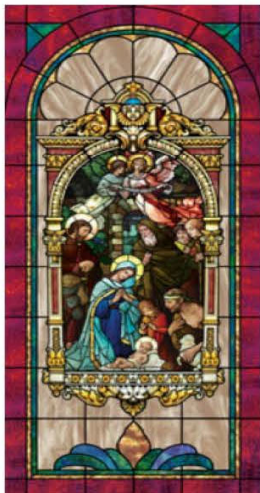
Deluxe Medallion 22
Death of Joseph



Deluxe Medallion 44
Crucifixion (alternate)



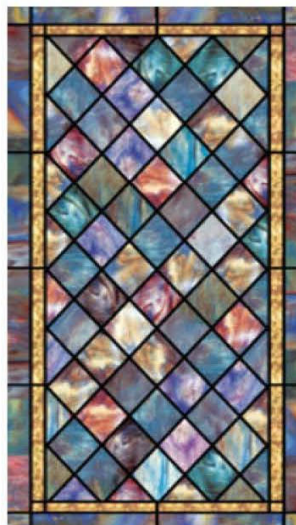
Deluxe Medallion 32
Immaculate Conception



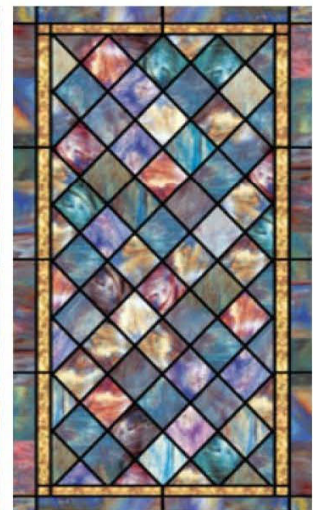
Deluxe Medallion IN-04



IN-30 shown with cross



IN-42 Plain



IN-42 Plain

Announcements

MEMORIALIZE

Your Loved One

#	Opening	size	Image selected	Cost
1	A Door	37" x 76"	Deluxe medallion IN-04	\$5,000.00
2	B Door	26" x 65"	IN-30 Shown with Cross	\$5,000.00
3	C Door	26" x 65"	Deluxe medallion 13	\$5,000.00
4	D Door	26" x 65"	Deluxe medallion 22 Death of Joseph	\$5,000.00
5	E Door	26" x 65"	Deluxe medallion 32 Immaculate Conception	\$5,000.00
6	F Door	26" x 65"	Deluxe medallion 44 Crucifixion	\$5,000.00
7	G Right Front Door	26" x 65"	IN - 42 Plain	\$5,000.00
8	H Left Front Door	26" x 65"	IN - 42 Plain	\$5,000.00
9	I entry by water fountain	42 1/4" x 79"	Saint 14 John Paul II	\$5,000.00
10	J entry by Gift shop	42 1/2" x 79"	Saint 13 Mother Theresa	\$5,000.00
11	K sacristy	84 1/2" x 42"	IN-30 Shown with Cross	\$5,000.00
12	L sacristy	Window		\$3,000.00
13	M sacristy	Window		\$3,000.00

Emmanuel Catholic Church



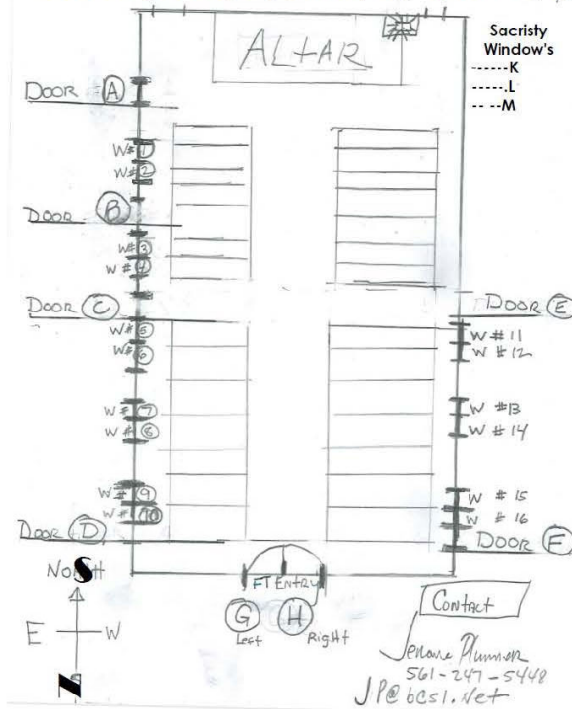
St John Paul II

Saint 14: John Paul II



MOTHER THERESA

Saint 13: Mother Theresa



Deluxe Medallion 1
Annunciation to Mary



Deluxe Medallion 11
Resurrection of Jesus

Saint of the Week

Saint Claude de la Colombière

Saint Claude de la Colombière's Story

This is a special day for the Jesuits, who claim today's saint as one of their own. It's also a special day for people who have a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus—a devotion Claude de la Colombière promoted, along with his friend and spiritual companion, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. The emphasis on God's love for all was an antidote to the rigorous moralism of the Jansenists, who were popular at the time.

Claude showed remarkable preaching skills long before his ordination in 1675. Two months later, he was made superior of a small Jesuit residence in Burgundy. It was there he first encountered Margaret Mary Alacoque. For many years after he served as her confessor.

He was next sent to England to serve as confessor to the Duchess of York. He preached by both words and by the example of his holy life, converting a number of Protestants. Tensions arose against Catholics and Claude, rumored to be part of a plot against the king, was imprisoned. He was ultimately banished, but by then his health had been ruined.

He died in 1682. Pope John Paul II canonized Claude de la Colombière in 1992.

Reflection

As a fellow Jesuit and as a promoter of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Saint Claude must be very special to Pope Francis who has so beautifully emphasized the mercy of Jesus. The emphasis on God's love and mercy are characteristic of both men.



LENT

The season of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday before the evening Mass of the Lord's supper. From then on until Easter Sunday the Church the Easter Triduum of Christ's passion and death, burial and resurrection.

Lent is characterized by penance for our past sins, works of mercy especially toward the poor, and personal preparation for the renewal of our baptismal promises on Easter Vigil. Thus, lent has two features: penitential and baptismal. Our tears of penance renew in our hearts and souls the water of baptism.

The ashes imposed on us on Ash Wednesday remind us that we are dust and to dust we shall return and that therefore the entire life of a Christian should be marked by works of self-denial and generosity. The traditional discipline of lent consists of constant prayer and reading of God's word, fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, abstinence from meat on Fridays, and works of mercy especially to those who have less in life. What is important is that through prayer and good works we allow God's grace to bring about our interior conversion. The sacrament of penance should accompany our Lenten observance.

Holy week is the high point of the Lenten season. It opens with the blessing of palms and the gospel reading of the passion and death of our savior. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem ended on Calvary, but we know that Good Friday led to Easter Sunday.

The biblical readings and prefaces extol the virtue of conversion of life, the need to fulfil our baptismal promises, joyful acceptance of daily trials for the love of God, and unselfish service to all who need our assistance.

Announcements



Diocese of Palm Beach

9995 North Military Trail • P.O. Box 109650
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410-9650

Office of
THE BISHOP

(561) 775-9595 Fax (561) 775-7035

February 13, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The Diocese of Palm Beach is blessed through the dedicated ministry of her priests. Many of these priests, because of age or infirmity, are no longer able to publicly assist at Mass, yet are nonetheless integral parts of our diocesan family. On February 20th and 21st each parish is invited to sponsor a second collection to support these faithful priests. In addition to supporting them financially, we also ask that you pray for our retired priests during this same weekend.

After years of dedicated ministry to our parishes, many of our retired priests in the diocese continue to serve their faithful through volunteer work and praying for our community. These priests, who have blessed us with their joyful service to the Lord, are valued members of our diocese now and always.

Let us remember the words prayed at a priest's ordination: "Together with us, may they be faithful stewards of your mysteries, so that your people may be renewed in the waters of rebirth and nourished from your altar; so that sinners may be reconciled, and the sick raised up. May they be joined with us, Lord, in imploring your mercy for the people entrusted to their care and for all the world." (*Rites of Ordination*, 2nd Edition, USSCB).

Your support of our retired priests through your prayers and generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for allowing them to continue to be faithful stewards of God's mysteries.

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald M. Barbarito".

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach