



EMMANUEL

God With Us



15700 S. MILITARY TRAIL, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484 | FEBRUARY 22, 2026 ISSUE | P:561.496.2480 F:561.496.5755



FASTED FOR 40 DAYS.

MATTHEW 4:2

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

©LP



TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE TODAY
For the benefit of the DB BANYAN CREEK Special Needs class.



Scan this QR code to watch this special Lenten video message from **Bishop Emeritus and Apostolic Administrator Barbarito.**



Take note of the weekly parish schedule (**PAGE 3**) and the clergy and mass schedule (**PAGE 6**). Note the extra mass offering on weekdays. Again, if the 10:00AM Sunday mass is posted, bear in mind that this is exclusive to our CCD kids and their families.



MARCH 7th
Tickets at \$25.00
See **PAGE 13** for details



Reflect, Repent, Rejoice

SEE PAGE 7—DISCERNMENT TOOL

Embracing the Lenten Journey

“ONE DOES NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE...”

PARISH INFORMATION

02 | PARISH FAMILY | GOD IS WITH US



OUR MISSION

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 a 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.

BISHOP-ELECT OF PALM BEACH

Most Reverend Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez, J.C.D.

CLERGY

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Gaudioso Zamora

Parish Vicar

Rev. Fr. Theodore Ihedoro

In Residence

Rev. Fr. Joseph Papes

Weekday/Weekend Associates

Rev. Fr. Timothy Canaan

Rev. Fr. David Carr Rev. Fr. James Leone

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

PARISH STAFF

Director of Finance

Tanya Kuppamala Ext. 1001 tkuppamala@emmanuelcatholic.church

Secretary

Stella Sadolfo Ext. 1007 secretary@emmanuelcatholic.church

Property Manager

Edward Shannon Ext. 1006 maintenance@emmanuelcatholic.church

Receptionist

Rose Marie Baldonado Ext. 1000 receptionist@emmanuelcatholic.church

PARISH MINISTRIES

OCIA & Sacramental Preparation

Deacon Anthony Cuseo

Religious Education

Jean Krokus | Ext. 1005

religiouseducation@emmanuelcatholic.church

Sandra Gallegos Ext 1005

sgallegos@emmanuelcatholic.church

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

Lectors

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

Hospitality / Ushers

Bob Bonney & Chuck Dolce

Music

Linda Coz, Ree Joy Baldonado, & Men's Choir

Altar Flowers

Bella Simbajon & Filipino Community

Altar & Clergy Vestments

Carol Chapman, Nancy McDonald,

Homebound / Hospital Ministry

Fr. Theo Ihedoro | Ext. 1004

Gift Shop

Josephine Joan | Ext. 1009

Blood Drive

Patti Gomez | 561-293-9761

Ladies Guild

President Nancy McDonald

Knights of Columbus

Grand Knight Luke VanHove

Legion of Mary

Maude Cassagnol

Men's & Women's Emmaus

Joe & Kathy de Santo (954)732-4479

PARISH REGULAR SCHEDULE

TAIZÉ PRAYER

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

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Every Thursday after the 8:30am mass
or call the parish office

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 1:00pm. Schedule one month in advance.
Contact Parish Office.

WEDDINGS

Contact Deacon Tony at least 6 months in advance

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

5:00pm Vigil Mass
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Monday & Wednesday 8am–1:30pm

Tuesday Closed

Thursday & Friday 8am–1pm

Saturday Closed

Fourth Sunday of the Month 10am–1:30pm

NOTE: Gift shop will be closed when the parish office is closed

ROSARY GROUP

Monday–Friday after the 7:30am Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after the 8:30am Mass

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

First Collection	\$ 16,289.00
Second Collection	3,473.00
Children's Mass	630.00
Online (2/14).....	1,954.27
TOTAL	\$ 22,346.27

FEBRUARY 08, 2026

First Collection	\$ 16,285.00
Second Collection	5,446.00
Children's Mass	610.00
Online (02/07).....	3,542.30
TOTAL	\$ 25,883.30

Thanks to our Parish Family for your constant prayers
and generous support for our church ministry!

PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 22

Tootsie Roll Drive

1:00P.....OCIA
1:00P.....Family Rosary
1:00P.....KoC Health Fair

Monday, February 23

6:30A..... Adoration
1:00P.....Movie Mondays
7:00P.....Young Adult Group

Tuesday, February 24

6:30A.....Adoration
9:00A.....Legion of Mary Meeting
10:00A.....Faith Sharing
7:00P.....KoC General Meeting

Wednesday, February 25

6:30A.....Adoration
4:00P.....SoulCore

Thursday, February 26

6:30A.....Adoration
9:00A.....Anointing of the Sick
3:00P.....Holy Hour
6:30P.....AA Meeting

Friday, February 27

6:30A.....Adoration
9:00A.....Stations of the Cross
4:00P.....Fish Fry
5:30P.....Stations of the Cross
6:30P.....Taize Holy Hour

Saturday, February 28

8:30A.....Confirmation Retreat
9:00A.....Confession
6:15P.....Rosary for World Peace

Sunday, March 01

9:00A.....Knights Of Columbus Mass
1:00P.....OCIA
1:00P.....Legion of Mary Rosary

SCHEDULED INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 22

- | | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 7:30am | *Victor & Elsa Caraballo & Family by Elsa Caraballo | †Eleanor Giannettino by David & Philomena Strompf |
| 9:00am | †Bob Kosineski by Wife
PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS | *Maria Manuele by Rose
PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS |
| 12:00pm | †Giuseppe Coraci by Maria Coraci | †Rosario Parrino by Maria Coraci |
| 6:00pm | †Cosimo Galeandro by Friends | †Rosemarie P. Smith by Louie & Barry Justice |

Monday, February 23

- | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|---|
| 7:30am | †Agnes Verlander by Donna & Jim | *Mary Therese & Jack Lieb by A. M. |
| 8:30am | †Martin Trahan by Family | †Collin Flynn by ----- |
| 12:00pm | *Jerome Davanzo by Mother | †Monta Grey Harrington by Mary Jane Royce |

Tuesday, February 24

- | | | |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|
| 7:30am | *Mary Therese & Jack Lieb by A. M. | *R. Lemar by A. M. |
| 8:30am | *Christos Ioannou by Evelyn Santiesteban | †Connie Gatto by Phyllis Rizzi |
| 12:00pm | *Mercedes Cepeda & Family by Mercedes | †Elenor Giannettino by Roselle |

Wednesday, February 25

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7:30am | †Liz & Chuck Rooney by Friend | *Amy Lemar by A. M. |
| 8:30am | †Martin Goodman by Wife | †Nelida Perez by Haydee Rodriguez |
| 12:00pm | †Steven Riccardo by Brother | †Dom & Dorothy Canazaro by Daughter |

Thursday, February 26

- | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7:30am | *Mercedes Cepeda & Family by Mercedes | *Illic Family by A. M. |
| 8:30am | †Brian Scott Leslie by Ann Keenan | *Mary Therese & Jack Lieb by A. M. |
| 12:00pm | †Giuseppe Coraci by Maria Coraci | †Antonello Gentile by Mario Spilotros |

Friday, February 27

- | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| 7:30am | †G. Mazzolin by A. M. | †Ophelia Baula Ganzon by Annabelle Bartolome |
| 8:30am | †Robert P. Hannigan by Karen Telep | †Dominick Cuozzo by Frank & Donna Femiano |
| 12:00pm | †All Souls in Purgatory by ----- | †All Souls in Purgatory by ----- |
| 6:00pm | FOR PRIESTS | FOR PRIESTS |

Saturday, February 28

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 8:30am | †Luke Le by Le Family | *Comacho-Bacarella Family by Deborah Bacarella |
| 4:00pm | BOOK OF THE DEAD | BOOK OF THE DEAD |
| 5:30pm | †Maria Stavropolous by Christine Shento | †Joan Palmieri by Daughter, Michelle |

Sunday, March 01

- | | | |
|---------|--|---|
| 7:30am | †Josephine Leuzzi by John & Dobbie Luppino | †Olga Serritella by Barbara & Peter Blakey |
| 9:00am | *Knights of Columbus by Blessed Mother Council 1333A
PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS | †Edward Moore by Wife, Mary Moore
PARISHIONERS & BENEFACTORS |
| 12:00pm | †Agostino Vultaggio by Maria Coraci | †Rosa Coraci by Maria Coraci |
| 6:00pm | †Leodegario Ganzon Sr. by Daughter | †Mrs. Helena Zilembo by Maria & Tony Amato |

UNSCHEDULED

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| †William A. Dundon by Maureen & John | *Dundon Family/Healing by Tarnagorski Family |
| *Margie Giaquinto by Ladies Guild | |

Altar Flowers

†G. Mazzolin by A.M.

Vigil Light

†G. Mazzolin by A.M.

Shrine Flowers

PRAYER LIST

Please take some time this week to remember the following in your prayers:

For all in our parish family who are suffering serious or terminal illness:

For men and women in the Armed Forces: AND FOR:

Maggie Dolan	Thomas Land	Olga Galarza	TJ Genzale
Amelita Coz-Zarraga	Agatha Saccio	The Taffe Family	Ronnie Falcone
Heather Martin	Rafael Botero	Alexander Barone	Michael Amalfi Jr
Ronald Griffiths	Albert F.Romano	Joanne Liantonio	Raphael Roman
Cynthia Martin	Britney Closson	John Petrich	Patti Shannon
Francis Martin	Jeanette Gallegos	Mary Karten	Raphael Roman
Hermoine D'Cruz	Adriana Elejalde	Luca Diomampo	Gwen Dambra
Brigitte Knops	Oswaldo C. Monasterio	Michael Manuele	Maria Lauria
Toni Kreamer	Michael Cecere	Robert Robert	Sophia Etapour
Gerry Gerhard	Jahaziel Roldan	Wiczkowski	Janet Shea
Euclides Cerutti	Abigail Chin-Lenn	Debbie Boburka	Joanne Colacchio
Samuel Gonzales	Gertrudis R. Martinez	Mady and Ruth Petersen	Kathy Brothers
Victorio	Merrill Tucker	Ann Carro	Liliana Grace Krauss
Ray Wolff	Maggie Dazzo	Ricarda Vargas	Kelly Brea
Josette Weber	Martha Gutzman	William Sheldon	Kelvin Greenleaf
Ann Cavaseno	Noah Altherios	Steve Valtri	Irving Corkette
Charles C. Tufano	Anthony Spirito	Bernadette & Bucky McGann	Carmella Donnino
Angela Discepola	Rhea Reacher	Raymond Perez Sr	Mark Walsh
Anna Halford	Doug Rodgers	Jochi Castellui .	Kathleen DeSanto
Sal Yanello	Doris Vourinen	Steve F.	
William Lindner	Sr Veronique DCSO	Sean Zahul	
Lisa Della Femina	Eleanor Hemmer	Jeanne G.	
Victor Rivera	Joseph Lauria	Tania R.	
María E. Quiñones	Judy Lew	Espinosa	
Mercado	Ernie Skelton	Anne Noel	
Diane Daniels	Carlotta	Lisette Woodward	
Carmen Jones	Josefa & Dolores Echavarría	Juan Silva	
Bill Hamilton	Annie Lee	Rocco & Susan Marcone	
Ralph Senese	Amparo Longalong	Maria A. Carmen Rosa & Marie Vactorin	
Ramona	Eugene Langel	Philip Charles Avangaline	
Ash Gaballah	Delma Langel	Ezeilo	
Karen Ramey	William Ward	Sal Cherch	
Mary Ann	Alexis Thompson	Jennifer Nicholas	
Lisa Payne	Griffin Bates	Antonia Hyde	
Marilyn Green	Miriam Texeira	Keith Melville	
Joseph Salamone	Kevin Marshall	Mark Sinobio	
Maria Amaro	Andrea Anastasi	Joselito Bengua	
Aniela Ignaczak	John & Alma Gardner	Michele Sambuco	
Lillian Campayno	Elaine Garofano	Gregg Dollinger	
Terry Schwinge	Julia Lea	Fred Hoffiman	
Tom D'Amico	Buddendorf	Bonnie Artman	
Gabriel Zamora	Albertina Hughes	Bob & Kathy Moran	
Vincent Blum	Kamm Trumble	Tom Trippi	
Ricardo Blum	Linda Beamish	Carole Liantonio	
Gina Marie B. Cohen	Quinn Morris	Rosemary Perez	
David Stropmf	Henry Morris	Mary Aloise	
Sal Hanono	Marcia Riopol	Craig Artman	
Heather Smith	Mumtaz Begum	Michelle Duffy	
Jason Smith	Lance Joseph	Rose Borsella	
Ronald Merhige	John Wilmere	Catherine Shannon	
Roshan	Keith Johnson	Kelly Keyser	
Karen Jensen	Betty Lou Johnson	Freddy Bellise	
Cynthia Martin	Christine Thurman	Astrid Castañeda	
Garry Solomon	Connie Panepinto	Jo-ann Suffield	
Ilda Sosa Botero	Edwin Villarosa	Walsh & Joseph Bonomo	
Carlos Tobon	Brian Sullivan	Nancy Kelley	
Jill Forshey	Dominic Canazaro		
Gerry Santilli	Kyle Buenconsejo		
Gail Hill			
Christie Budrick			
Frank Dazzo			
Dina Quelch			
Stewart Librizzi			

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

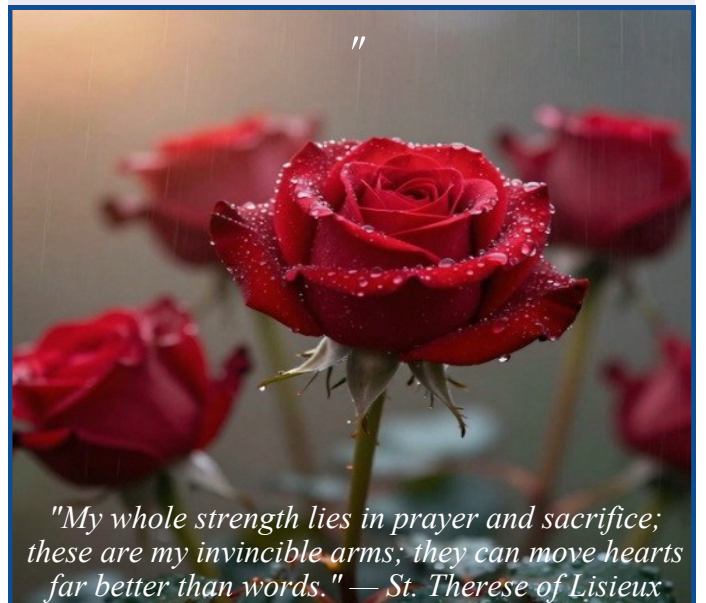
O Lord, I believe and profess that You are truly Christ, Son of the Living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. Accept me this day as I partake of your mystical supper, O Son of God.

May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord be not for judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of body and soul. I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious Body and Blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send your workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel.

Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.



"My whole strength lies in prayer and sacrifice; these are my invincible arms; they can move hearts far better than words." — St. Therese of Lisieux

"The fruit of silence is prayer, the fruit of prayer is faith, the fruit of faith is love, the fruit of love is service, the fruit of service is peace." — Mother Teresa

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,
2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday:

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 22

7:30A Fr. Theo 9:00A Fr. Timothy
****10:00A Fr. Zamora (**Children's Mass)**
10:30A Fr. Timothy 12:00P Fr. Leone
6:00P Fr. Zamora

Monday, February 23

7:30A Fr. Zamora 8:30A Fr. Carr
12:00P Fr. Timothy

Tuesday, February 24

7:30A Fr. Theo 8:30A Fr. Timothy
12:00P Fr. Carr

Wednesday, February 25

7:30A Fr. Carr 8:30A Fr. Leone
12:00P Fr. Timothy

Thursday, February 26

7:30A Fr. Zamora 8:30A Fr. Timothy
12:00P Fr. Leone

Friday, February 27

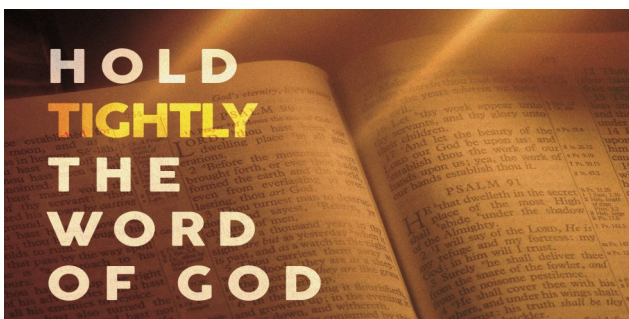
7:30A Fr. Carr 8:30A Fr. Zamora
12:00P Fr. Timothy 6:00P Fr. Theo

Saturday, February 28

8:30A Fr. Zamora 4:00P Fr. Leone
5:30P Fr. Theo

Sunday, March 01

7:30A Fr. Zamora 9:00A Fr. Carr
****10:00A Fr. Carr (**Children's Mass)**
10:30A Fr. Timothy 12:00P Fr. Timothy
6:00P Fr. Theo



Weekly Prayer *Take-offs*

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

Psalm:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

Second Reading:

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

Gospel:

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan."

Observances for the week of February 22, 2026

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

EMBRACING CHALLENGE

How to Make the Correct Choice

- 1. What is the decision I need to make?** Clearly define the choice or situation at hand.
- 2. What are my options?** List all possible choices or actions related to the decision.
- 3. How do I feel about each option?** Reflect on your emotional and spiritual responses to each choice.
- 4. What does my faith or spiritual tradition say about this decision?** Consider teachings, scripture, or principles that may guide you.
- 5. Have I consulted trusted individuals about my decision?** Reflect on discussions with mentors, friends, or spiritual advisors.
- 6. Where do I sense God's presence in this situation?** Examine which options bring a sense of peace or clarity.
- 7. What fears or anxieties arise with each option?** Identify fears that might cloud your judgment or lead to desolation.
- 8. Which choice aligns with my values and long-term goals?** Assess how each option relates to your core beliefs and aspirations.
- 9. What would I advise a friend to do if they were in my position?** Step back and consider an outsider's perspective.
- 10. What is God calling me to do?** Pray for insight and openness to God's will in your decision-making process.
- 11. How will I follow up on this decision?** Plan how to enact your choice and reflect on its outcomes over time.

God Will Make A Way

SACRAMENT OF Reconciliation



Congratulations to our First Communion Class for reaching an important milestone on their spiritual journey by receiving their First Reconciliation! This brings them one step closer to the joyous celebration of their First Holy Communion on April 25th at 10am.



Embracing Our Lenten Journey:

From Dust to Renewal

As we gather today to embark on the sacred journey of Lent, we reflect on the profound themes of creation, temptation, sin, and redemption. The scripture passages we heard highlight our human condition and our need for God's grace.

In Genesis 2:7-9, we see God breathing life into dust, creating humanity in His image. This act of divine artistry reminds us that from the very beginning, we were made for relationship—with God and with each other. Yet, as we hear in Genesis 3:1-7, temptation entered the world through the serpent's cunning words, leading Adam and Eve to disobey God. Their choice not only brought sin into the world but also the separation from the perfect union they once enjoyed with their Creator.

Psalm 51 cries out for mercy, illustrating our deep desire for reconciliation. "Create in me a clean heart, O God," we plead, seeking restoration after our own falls. This plea resonates with each of us during Lent, a season marked by repentance and introspection. The ashes we receive remind us of our mortality and call us to recognize our shortcomings. Yet, it is not only about sorrow; it's about

transformation.

In Romans 5:12-19, Paul contrasts the effects of Adam's transgression with the profound grace offered through Jesus Christ. While sin entered the world through one man, it is through Christ that grace abounds. This Lenten season, we are invited to embrace our brokenness, not as a source of despair but as a pathway to understanding the immeasurable gift of grace.

Matthew 4:1-11 illustrates Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, where He confronts the struggles that sometimes lead us astray. In His reply to the devil, we see the power of scripture and the necessity of relying on God's word to overcome temptation. Jesus shows us that true strength comes not from material sustenance but from our dependence on God.

As we begin this holy season, let us commit to a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Let us use this opportunity to examine our choices, turn away from temptations, and draw closer to God. Lent invites us to move from a state of sin towards renewal and transformation—from dust to life, from despair to hope. May our journey this Lent be marked by a commitment to seek God's grace, as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

Saint of the Week—*St. Polycarp*

St. Polycarp was a prominent early Christian martyr and bishop of Smyrna (modern-day Izmir, Turkey), who lived in the 2nd century AD. Born around 69 AD, he is believed to have been a disciple of the Apostle John, one of Jesus' original twelve apostles. Polycarp is well-known for his steadfast faith in Christ and his role in defending orthodox Christian teachings against heresies.

Polycarp's story is particularly significant due to his martyrdom. He was arrested and brought before the Roman authorities during a time of persecution against Christians. Despite being urged to renounce his faith and proclaim loyalty to the Roman Emperor, Polycarp famously declared, "Eighty-six years I have served Him, and He has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?" He ultimately chose to stand firm in his beliefs, leading to his execution by burning at the stake around 155 AD. His life and martyrdom serve as a powerful testament to unwavering faith and conviction.

Reflection

St. Polycarp's extraordinary commitment to his faith

during a time of persecution serves as a profound reminder of the strength and courage that can be found in our convictions. His unfaltering loyalty to Christ, even in the face of death, encourages us to examine the depth of our own faith.

In our modern world, we often encounter challenges that test our beliefs and values. Whether in the form of peer pressure, societal expectations, or personal struggles, the call to remain true to our convictions can be daunting. St. Polycarp inspires us to stand firm, reminding us that faith is not merely about belief but about living out that belief with courage and integrity.

His life urges us to cultivate a deep, personal relationship with Christ that anchors us in moments of trial and uncertainty. We are invited to reflect on what it means to stand for our beliefs and to share our faith with others, just as Polycarp did. As we face our daily challenges, let us seek the strength to persevere, knowing that, like St. Polycarp, our steadfastness can inspire those around us. May we strive to live with that same conviction, embracing our call to faith and love, even when it requires sacrifice.

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: There are many reasons why the Word became flesh. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world.

Into the Desert

When we first got married, I wanted to know everything my husband was thinking, exactly when he was thinking it.

Thirteen years later, I still want to know it all. But I want to know it after he's had a snack.

I think he still wants to know what I'm thinking, too. But he wants to know it after I've had 10 minutes without hearing the word, "Mommy!"

Life has taught us, you see, that it's hard to be a good person, a nice person, a gentle person, when your body doesn't feel good or nice or gentle. When you're hungry. When you're exhausted. When you're anxious.

It's not impossible, of course. It's just ... *hard*.

We're entering a penitential season, a time in which we purposefully deprive ourselves in certain ways. During Lent, we intentionally enter into the desert of physical hunger and weakness. Why, in preparation for Easter and in an effort to spiritually purify ourselves, do we go to this place where it's so *hard to be good*? Why do we go to the desert?

Because Christ has shown us that the desert is where decisions are made.

There are many reasons why the Word became flesh to accomplish God's plan for our salvation. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world. We see it in today's Gospel: Jesus, hungry and weary. Jesus, taunted and tempted.

We see him. We recognize him. We are him.

And we hear his voice, even though it trembles with fatigue: "Get away, Satan!"

Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What does Jesus mean when he talks about taking up our cross?

Answer:

Our journey of faith begins in baptism. When we are faithful to it, we find God's plan for us, his way of allowing us to participate in his saving work, which in turn becomes for us our own salvation. Stated simply, we share in the mission of Jesus each day. We live our life with all of its ups, downs, joys, and sorrows in union with the mission of Jesus. Our work then is holy. It is joined to the cross, God's will for Jesus — the way in which he destroys sin and death and makes eternal life possible. His sacrifice accomplishes what we ourselves cannot do.

To take up the cross, then, means that we share in the mission of Jesus and so embrace the sufferings of the cross. It is our daily life made holy, given a redemptive mission. It is our purpose and goal to unite our life to that of Christ. St. Paul says it best, "If we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).



When you
have the
opportunity
to do good,
do not
let it go by.

St. Polycarp

©LPi

Dear Faith Community



With humble and joyful hearts, we announce the Vespers (evening prayer), Ordination, and Installation of Bishop Manuel de Jesús Rodríguez.

Due to limited space, these are **invitation-only** events, but we encourage you to join us in prayer via our **live streams** of Vespers on **Monday, February 23**, at 6 pm and Ordination and Installation on **Tuesday, February 24**, at 2 pm as we welcome our new shepherd.

All events will be recorded and available on our website.

May Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles, patroness of the diocese, guide us in the footsteps of her Son, Jesus Christ.

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-  @DiocesePB

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www.diocesepb.org



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FULLY ALIVE YOUNG ADULTS
 EMMANUEL CHURCH

Join us

MONDAYS | 7:00 PM

ENTER THROUGH THE PADRE PIO DOOR

Are you a young adult (18-39) at Emmanuel Catholic Church seeking community and deeper faith? Join Fully Alive Young Adults, a group centered on growing in the spiritual life and better understanding the Catholic Faith.

What to expect

- Guided discussions on the Foundations of Faith series by Ascension Presents
- Lectio Divina (Meditation and prayer using Sacred Scripture)
- Opportunities to serve the poor in local communities
- Casual hangouts for fun and games!



DOOR LOCATED TO THE RIGHT OF THE PADRE PIO STATUE

“The glory of God is man fully alive.” - ST. IRENAEUS OF LYONS



Once a week @4:30P - 6:30P
(Dine-in OR Take-out)

Your choice of **FRIED COD** OR **BAKED MAHI**,
plus French Fries, Coleslaw and a Roll.

JOIN US FOR

FRIDAY FISH FRY

\$14.00/dinner
\$1.00 for each dessert, water, or soda
50/50 raffle tickets are 3 for \$5.00

EMMANUEL | 15700 S. MILITARY TR | DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484
(561) 496-2480 | \$14 PER PERSON

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Dinner! Music! 50/50s! Fun!

The Knights of Columbus'

Spring FLing

Join us for an evening of **FOOD** and **FUN** as we
spring into Spring! Dine on the evening's menu of
**Chicken Marsala over Pasta, Roasted Vegetables,
Caesar Salad, Rolls, Dessert & Soft Drinks!**
(BYOB!) Then party the evening away to the musical
jams of DJ Linus!
-Join Us and Help Support the Knights' Charities!-

Saturday, March 7 • 6:30PM • Columbus Hall
Tickets: \$25 available in the Church Office

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH IN A RELAXED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT?

Emmanuel continues to host the School of Christian Formation for the Diocese of Palm Beach. This program offers a series of courses for adult Catholics who wish to learn more about the rich traditions of their faith.



Our next course, *Vatican II*, will begin on March 4.

The course will be taught by Lily Potito, M.A. Theology, Ave Maria University '21.

Each class meets from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Big Classroom on Wednesday afternoon for a total of six sessions (12 hours) per course.

Registration is \$10 per course; textbooks generally range from \$10 to \$20 per course. Please register at the first class.

You may attend individual courses for credit or follow the entire three-year program which concludes with the granting of a certificate of completion awarded by Bishop Barbarito at the school's annual graduation ceremony.

The Diocese strongly recommends these courses for all the faithful, especially those serving in liturgical, educational and spiritual ministries.



Creating a Safer Community Together

The Diocese of Palm Beach is deeply committed to protecting the most vulnerable among us, especially children and vulnerable adults. The **Office of Safe Environments** is a trusted resource for families, educators, and community members who want to ensure safety is always a priority.

