

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

RECTORY: 35 TREASURY STREET
824-2806 ▪ OFFICE HOURS: 9 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

E-MAIL: cathparish@gmail.com ▪ WEBSITE: thefirstparish.org

Pastor: Very Rev. Thomas Willis ▪ frtomstaug@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar: Rev. D. Terrence Morgan ext. 312 ▪ frmorganstaug@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lawrence Peck ▪ frlawrencestaug@gmail.com

Rev. Jeffrey Johnston ▪ frjeffstaug@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate: Deacon Charles Kanaszka, Jr. ext. 301 ▪ ckanaszka@gmail.com

Parish Manager: John Garofalo ext. 304 ▪ cathadmin@gmail.com

Director of Music: Dr. Bernie Sans ext. 331 ▪ cathstaugmusic@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Barbara Eretto ext. 315 ▪ cathedralcfc@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Ryan Poticny ext. 326 ▪ cathedralyouthgroup@gmail.com

Finance Office: Diane Clark ext. 311 ▪ cathedralfinance@gmail.com

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Receptionist: Diane Cowart ext. 335 ▪ cathreceptionist@gmail.com

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Church Records: Mary Grace Manlandro-Gardy ext. 306
cathedralreceptionist@gmail.com

Bell Tower Gift Shop: 829-0620 ▪ cathedralbelltower@gmail.com

Cathedral Parish School: Kathy Boice, Principal
824-2861 ▪ kboice@cpschool.org

Cathedral Parish Early Education Center: Jill Valley, Director
829-2933 ▪ valleycpeec@aol.com

CATHEDRAL PARISH COUNCIL

Joel Beason ▪ David Gauronskas ▪ Mary Kelley Kryzwick ▪ Anne Marie LaVista (Chair)
Bill Mullen ▪ Mary Petrone ▪ Joe Riffe (Secretary) ▪ Bob Wagner (Vice-Chair)

CATHEDRAL FINANCE COUNCIL Richard LaVista, Chair
Tom Albano ▪ Marilyn Beach ▪ Tom Dolan ▪ Zack Smith

This Week in Our Parish

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

9:30 a.m. – RCIA, Verot Room

3 p.m. – Divine Mercy devotions, St. Benedict the Moor Church

6:30 p.m. – Senior Youth Group, Bosco House

MONDAY, APRIL 24

6:30 p.m. – Fraternus, St. Benedict the Moor Rectory

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

9:30 a.m. & 4:45 p.m. – Legion of Mary meeting, St. Benedict the Moor Rectory

7 p.m. – Baptism class, Bracken Room

7 p.m. – RCIA, St. Benedict the Moor Rectory

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

8 a.m. – Alpha, St. Benedict the Moor Rectory

5 p.m. – Junior Youth Group meeting, Bishop Baker Center

6 p.m. – Confirmation rehearsal, Cathedral

6:15 p.m. – Religious Education, CPS classrooms

7 p.m. – Choir rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

7:45 a.m. – Altar Guild, Cathedral

6 p.m. – Amoris Laetitia seminar, St. Benedict the Moor Rectory

6 p.m. – Alpha, Bosco House meeting room

7 p.m. – Choir rehearsal (9 a.m. choir), Rehearsal Room

7 p.m. – Cathedral Schola rehearsal, St. Benedict the Moor Church

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

7:30-8:30 a.m. – Confessions, Cathedral

9 a.m.-3 p.m. – Parish Pilgrimage, St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery, Bunnell



Miraculous Medal Novena

on Tuesdays before 7 a.m. Mass at
the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Augustine
"O MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US
WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO YOU!"



THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

CATHEDRAL

4/23	Sunday 9 a.m.	Robert Sumner †
4/24	Monday 7 a.m.	Colleen Gaffrey Conchelost †
4/25	Tuesday 7 a.m.	Ken Bradley †
4/26	Wednesday 7 a.m.	Rita Hathaway "L"
4/27	Thursday 7 a.m.	Angela Cox †
4/28	Friday 7 a.m.	Wayne Sharpe †
4/29	Saturday 7 a.m.	John and Veronica Adomunas †
4/29	Saturday 5 p.m.	Debbie Goodwin †
4/30	Sunday 9 a.m.	Vivianne Cecelic †

SAINT BENEDICT THE MOOR

4/23	Sunday 8 a.m.	Betty Roberts †
4/30	Sunday 8 a.m.	Joseph Scoville †



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Monday, April 24

Acts 4:23-31 ▪ Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 ▪ Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday, April 25 SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST

1 Pt 5:5b-14 ▪ Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 ▪ Mk 16:15-20

Wednesday, April 26

Acts 5:17-26 ▪ Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 ▪ Jn 3:16-21

Thursday, April 27

Acts 5:27-33 ▪ Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 ▪ Jn 3:31-36

Friday, April 28

Acts 5:34-42 ▪ Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 ▪ Jn 6:1-15

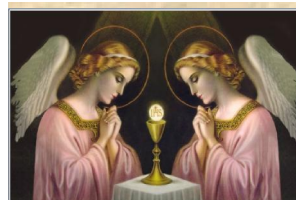
Saturday, April 29 SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Acts 6:1-7 ▪ Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 ▪ Jn 6:16-21

Sunday, April 30 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:14, 22-33 ▪ Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 ▪ 1 Pt 1:17-21 ▪ Lk 24:13-35

Above: Saint Catherine of Siena



Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
CHAPEL OF THE CATHEDRAL
Monday through Friday, following
7 a.m. Mass, until 3 p.m.

❖ **Preparing for the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima**

All of the books, 33 *Days to Morning Glory* have been taken. You may order your own at Amazon.com or ShopMercy.org.

For those who chose to participate, the final prayer of Consecration will be prayed at our parish's observance of Fatima's Centennial on May 13 at 12:00 noon in the Cathedral. If you are doing the consecration **AND** will be at the May 13 event at 12:00 noon, please let us know by sending an email to cathparish@gmail.com.

❖ **We continue to pray for those who are recovering from Hurricane Matthew**

We continue to pray for those in our local community who are recovering from Hurricane Matthew. For over six months we know that basic living conditions have been challenging, and obtaining assistance has been daunting. However, there are families who have begun moving back into their homes and businesses. If you would like your home or place of work blessed, please contact the Cathedral Rectory (904-824-2806 or cathparish@gmail.com) and we will do our best to set up a time to ask God's blessings.

A Note About Some Changes in the Liturgy You May Have Noticed

Singing within the Sacred Liturgy is normative in the Roman Catholic Church. In fact, you can easily say, "We are to sing the Liturgy," not "We sing at Liturgy." With that in mind, after discussion among the clergy and parish music staff, we decided to make the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass our "Solemn Mass" each Lord's Day. So, the conclusion of the first and second readings are now chanted (see our hymnal, *Worship*, no. 207). As well, we will chant the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions) at the 11:00 Mass which will involve your sung response – either "Lord, hear our prayer," or "Lord, have mercy," or another one that will be indicated to you. Our hope is that this will continue to help us realize the great dignity that is our worship of Almighty God and the reverence due by us in our worship.

**Mission Statement of the Cathedral Parish
St. Augustine, Florida**

**WE ARE CHRIST'S EYES, EARS, MOUTH, HANDS,
AND FEET -**

**SENT OUT TO DO JUSTICE, ESPECIALLY FOR THE
POOR AND OPPRESSED,**

**TO MINISTER TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY,
TO BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION -**

**AWAKENING FAITH AMONG THE HOPELESS,
AND PROMOTING LIFE EVEN WITHIN THE CULTURE
OF DEATH.**

**Report on Pledges to Bishop's Stewardship Appeal
from the Cathedral Parish**

[as of April 10, 2017]

Total Amount Pledged: \$128,088.00

Families Pledging: 270*

*Please note that our parish goal is 400 families. If you have not pledged to the BASA, please do so today.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God!"

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, the above quote that was received by Saint Faustina Kowalska from Jesus in His revelations to her about the gift of Divine Mercy, says it all. That mercy, which poured out from Jesus' side as he died for us upon the Cross in Blood and Water (see John 19:34), remains available to us – in the Sacraments of His Church, most especially in the Most Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Penance.

This afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in Saint Benedict the Moor Church (86 Martin Luther King Ave.) we will celebrate the Holy Hour of Divine Mercy with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. We will also, as best we can, make available sacramental confession to those who desire it.

Pope Saint John Paul II, who established the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, once said in a homily in Krakow, Poland in 1997:

"There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy – that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God."

Let us open our hearts and souls to receive so great a Gift this day!

Love, Father Tom

The May 20 Parish Day of Reflection is Cancelled

Many of you have expressed concern over the number of parish events scheduled this Spring and the resultant confusion. After discussing this situation at our Parish Council meeting we decided to cancel the event and look for an opportunity in the Fall when the schedule is less crowded. Thanks for your feedback!



**THE DIVINE MERCY ICON CANDLE IS DONATED
THIS WEEK BY BARBARA ERETTO IN MEMORY OF
SALVATORE ERETTO**

❖ **It's time to plan the 2017 St. Benedict Blues Fest!**

First organizational meeting April 27

St. Benedict the Moor Blues Fest is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, October 20-21. Crowd favorites are back including Lil' Mike and the Tornados, Gene Johnson Road Blues, and Amy Hendrickson. It will be our fifth year, and if you would like to lend your ideas, time, and talent to make the Blues Fest Fifth an extraordinary event, come to one of our three organizational meetings on (1) Thursday, April 27 from 5-6 p.m., (2) Tuesday, May 2 from 6-7 p.m., or (3) Sunday, May 7 after 8 a.m. Mass. Meetings will be held in the St. Benedict Rectory. If you can't make any of these dates just email stbensbluesfest@gmail.com or call (904) 228-0051.

❖ **April 27, 6:30 p.m.: Amoris Laetitia for couples, with Joe Riffe**

If you are interested in learning more about Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*—*The Joy of Love*, please join us. Our series for married couples continues Thursday, April 27, at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Benedict Rectory (86 Martin Luther King Avenue). For additional information, please contact Joe Riffe, (904) 233-7556, or jrriffe@comcast.net.

❖ **Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: update on need for Adorers**

Adorers are needed for the following hours of Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral: Tuesday 8-9 and Noon-1; and Friday 9-10 and 11-Noon. To commit to an hour, please contact Susan Partel, (904) 669-9351.

OFFERTORY FOR APRIL 16, 2017

CATHEDRAL.....	\$22,696.00
St. Benedict the Moor.....	\$1,664.00
Faith Direct.....	\$6,000.29
[Holy Thursday.....	\$4,481.00]
[Good Friday.....	\$4,781.00]
Weekly Total.....	\$30,360.29
Weekly Amount Needed.....	\$23,656.73
Weekly +/-.....	\$(+6,703.56
YTD actual thru 2/28/17**.....	\$815,512.99
YTD needed thru 2/28/17.....	\$810,933.32
YTD +/-.....	\$(+4,579.67

*Weekly total does not include any offertory given via website, mail, etc. **YTD total includes all offertory, e.g. collection baskets, Faith Direct, website, mail, etc. YTD based on a July 1-June 30 fiscal year.

CATHEDRAL GIFT BEARERS

If you are assigned to bring up the gifts, please check in with the ushers 15 minutes before the start of Mass. If you do not check in, the ushers will find a replacement for you.

For April 29 and 30 the Gift Bearers are:

Saturday, April 29, 5 p.m. —

Sunday, April 30, 7 a.m. — Charito Macapanas and Naty Stowell

Sunday, April 30, 9 a.m. — Alice and Dave Brooky

Sunday, April 30, 11 a.m. — Carole Wixted

Sunday, April 30, 5 p.m. — Maureen Mitchell

Families and individuals are welcome to have the honor of presenting the people's offerings to the priest at Mass. Anyone interested in being a Gift Bearer at Mass is invited to do so. Please contact Nancy and Don Davis at davisdlspooky@gmail.com or (904) 692-4174.

Join the Parish Council for a day of prayer and reflection:

PILGRIMAGE

to St. Joseph's Carmelite Monastery, Bunnell
with Fr. Tom Willis

Saturday, April 29, 2017, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bus departure and return from St. Joseph's Academy
(155 SR 207, St. Augustine)

Cost of \$35.00 per person covers lunch and expenses.

Space is limited.

For more info and to register online via the link on
our website: www.thefirstparish.org

Questions? Contact Mary Petrone @ 972-365-0040 or
mfptrn@yahoo.com

**ADDENDUM TO EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS LIST:
EASTER FLOWERS WERE DONATED BY
SRS. RENEE AND MARY VICTOR AZAR
IN MEMORY OF NAOMI AND EMILY AZAR.**

❖ **Memorial Mass for Father Rene Robert, April 26 at San Sebastian Catholic Church**

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated by Father John Gillespie to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the death of Father Rene Robert. All are welcome to attend. 7 p.m. at San Sebastian Catholic Church, 1112 FL-16, St. Augustine.

❖ **The Joys and Challenges of Pope Francis, May 6 at St. Matthew Parish**

Dr. Tom Ryan, director of the Loyola Institute for Ministry, will be providing a FREE adult faith formation opportunity on *The Joys and Challenges of Pope Francis* on Saturday, May 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the parish hall at St. Matthew Parish (Blanding Blvd.), Jacksonville. Tom will also be sharing information about the programming offered by Loyola University. To register for this event, please email cformation@dosafl.com.

❖ **St. Luke Parish Festival, May 5-7**

Festival will include fireworks, rides, food, live entertainment, raffle, silent auction, and a family-friendly environment that helps support St. Luke Parish, St. Luke Child Care Center, Annunciation Catholic School, and a variety of ministries including Catholic Charities and St. Luke Parish Outreach Ministry. St. Luke Catholic Church, 1606 Blanding Blvd., Jacksonville. For information and to purchase tickets, visit www.stlukesfestival.org.

❖ **Hop on the Meal Train!**

Each summer, Catholic Charities' Camp I Am Special serves meals to over 400 campers with special needs, buddies, and staff. With their days full of activity, homemade meals are gobbled up and greatly appreciated by our campers! We need your help in providing lunch, dinner or snacks for camp over the 7 week-long sessions. Camp runs from June 11 to August 5. Please visit www.mealtrain.com/n22y6q for more information or to reserve a specific date and meal time. The most complete information regarding menu ideas, guidelines and times is found by clicking on a green calendar box in the months of June, July or August (this will not obligate you to that date). Additional questions? Email FFlaum@ccebjax.org.



The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!

How should we prepare for this great Feast of Mercy?



Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when **“all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened”**. (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, on the Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

Jesus promised that **“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.”**(Diary 699) He went on to say **“I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy.”** (Diary 1109)

We want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this incredible promise and the additional Plenary Indulgence on this great Feast of Mercy “Divine Mercy Sunday”. We want you to benefit fully from these promises, and we also want you to notify all of your family and friends about them too and urge them to return to the practice of their faith!

The Image of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord requested to be solemnly blessed and venerated on this day, will be on display in our church. Pope John Paul II said that the image portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing Mercy to the whole world. Our Lord said **“I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish”**. (Diary 341, 48) Please take the time to visit with this Image of The Divine Mercy and venerate Jesus.

Jesus said to St. Faustina **“I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You”**. (Diary 327) **“The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross. ...Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him.”** (Diary 299)

About the feastday “Divine Mercy Sunday”, Jesus said **“...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy”**. (Diary 699)

Our Lord said **“When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul...”** and **“Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy”** (1602) **Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is... only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to Me, and I will fill it with My light.”** (1725)

It is required of all Catholics to confess their serious sins at least once every year. If you haven't yet met this obligation then take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to receive an outpouring of an ocean of graces that Jesus promises on this day. Those who have already confessed their sins should make room for others.

The Church allows for one to go to Confession for up to about 20 days, before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.

Cathedral Parish Parking: **TRUE OR FALSE?**

The entire "Bank of America lot" is reserved for Mass parking on the weekends.

FALSE. No parking spaces are reserved for Mass parking. Parking for Mass is based on space availability. In addition to the main lot, those with a Cathedral Parish Parking permit can also park in the Bank of America employee lot on Treasury St. and the Bank of America drive thru. Please follow the attendant's instructions.

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE SICK...

Fr. Jeff Johnston, Gail Mullen, Joan Tringali, Robin Borland, Jill Burger, Donald Rogero, Nicholas D'Amato, Dana Fay, Don Davis, Pamela Blanco, Sally Brink, Irving Morrison, Cam Baker, Jack Patrick Pean, Bob Kramer, Guy Tinto, Betty Latino, Julie Dopp Koziel, Victor Agruso, Jr., David Kavanagh, Maggie Cox, Nancy Totino, Kristen Beebe, Bonnie Jones, Nick D'Amico, Jerry Doherty, Delaney Nalepka, David Poppen, James Seldomridge, Steve Lau, Nancy Carlsen, CarolAnn New Phaneuf, "Augy" Bonhomme, Kevin McCarthy, Casey Carter, Sue Boothe, Norma Poli, Paul Garofalo, Rose Alberding, Bella Walden, Pat DiMuzio, William and Micheline Wood, Kelsey Kenney, Michael Anthony Lischio III, David Healy, Susan Buron, Adolfo Sepulveda, Sacha Prins, Andrew Petty, Ashley Smith, JoAnne Esposito, Allyson Turner, Norman Pickett, Hazel DeGrande, Virgil Young, Schelia Colee, Adelaida Thomen-Fernandez, Greg Flinn, Sean Spicer, Annalee Freund, Gilson "Gil" Bailey, Nancy Bradshaw, Bucky Powers, Erika Garcia, John Hession, William "Pierre" Pierce, Robert Pellicer, Ann Algreen, Patty Doyle, Molly Oliver, Baya and Coda Lusk, Jane Collins, Glen Cross, Mary Tinto, Fr. Ed Booth, Sara McFarland, Joshua Solana, Mary Smyly, Marie Brand, Margaret McCutcheon, Margo Pope, Mike Spurlin, James Bradshaw, Clyde Randy Stewart, Judy Mills, Dolores Pettingell, Diana Kanaszka-Folino, Lorraine Huber, Rosezella Presnell, Marie Cutler, Michelle Pacetti, Mary Baker, Angela Jackson, Debra Carey, Yvette Guernon, Chuck Lemiska, Lily Shaw, Kevin Crowley, Joyce King, Wanda Erbe, Adrienne Cross, Deborah Baker, John Supina, Laurie Hesson, John McBryde, Kathy Healy, Jean Marie Avellan, Kathleen Green, Michael and Maria Sansone, Sage Stinson, Frank Luiz, Priscilla Stafford, Andrea Doyle, Bob Gardy, Barbara Colee, James Black, Chuck Yockel, Phil Zinn, Mary Elizabeth Tripp, Jason A. Randolph, Rose DeLisi, Tom Klempay, Roberta Gazda, Ryan Olschewski, Michael Valaro, Dr. John Spence, Alyce Orlando, Natalie Lucas, Genevieve Pelletier, Jamie Lewis Price, Josephine Scher, Don Wehking, Richard "Hoyt" Muir, Freddie Nicolosi, David Rake, Lydia Molitor, Harry Piper, Cynthia Stephens, Dan Burkhardt

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Will Soffera, Daniel Soffera, Lt. Col. Dr. Eric J. Colon, Kathryn Emery, CPT Derrick Hoxie IV, LCDR Sean Morrison, SPC Kristopher Patrick Pean, SPC Brandon Conrad, Major Ricky Buria, Patrick Connaway, Capt. Mark Murphy, Aaron Day, Joshua Brady, Capt. Robert Francis May, Col. Joseph A. Craft, William E. Beach, Matthew Torres, Christopher Hoffman, Benedetto M. Santorelli Jr., Mike Heagy, James Garcia, Tyler Brunson, Ryan Olschewski, Jeffrey P. Wissel, Matthew Rock Bailey, Brian Bunze, Michael Patrick Burns, Nicolas Carter, Thomas J. Cleaver, Daniel Correll, Gerald Fisher, Pamela Cassandra DeVoto, Brian S. Flowers, Adrian Genotti, Mark Harrison, Michael Holland, Patrick E. Keough, Peter E. Keough, SSG Larson's Unit, David Leach, William Lunger, Jeremy St. Pierre, Nathan Rose, Chief Sean Christian Servantes, Luke Stevens, Gerald P. Timoney, Mark Tinto, James Zadra

There is
HOPE
for your
FUTURE

● **Caring Choices** is a program of Catholic Charities which reaches out to those in an unplanned pregnancy. Counseling, education, support and resources are made available to those facing a crisis pregnancy. This is one decision not to face alone! Call 1-866-901-9647.

● Struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion? *Rachel's Vineyard*, a post-abortion healing ministry, will help transform your pain into love and hope. To find out more, call 904-221-3232.

NEED PRAYERS? If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, call 599-9455 or 824-2806 to be added to our prayer list.

The deadline for submissions to the Cathedral bulletin is noon on Monday, six days prior to bulletin distribution.
Bulletin editor: ssmekasavant@aol.com

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT THE VILLA FLORA-BROWN HALL RENEWAL CENTER

ST. GEORGE STREET, ACROSS FROM THE SSJ MOTHERHOUSE

☞ **Every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: Christian Meditation**
hosted by Sister Mary Christine Zimorski, SSJ

Christian Meditation, deeply rooted in Christian tradition, aims "to allow God's mysterious presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are..." Cost: Donations accepted. Call (904) 824-1752 to register or at www.ssjl.org.

☞ **Every Saturday, 2:30-3:30 p.m.: Centering Prayer**
hosted by Sister Margaret Zapf, SSJ

Centering prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself. This method of prayer is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. Call (904) 824-1752 to register or at www.ssjl.org.



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITY FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS AND MEMORIALS

Anyone celebrating a special day, or wishing to honor someone's memory, is invited to do so by covering the cost of altar flowers, the Divine Mercy Icon candle, and/or the Blessed Sacrament Chapel sanctuary lamp. Deadline will be noon on Monday for the following week.

Please contact the Rectory office at (904) 824-2806 for further information.

✦ Stewardship reflection for Divine Mercy Sunday

Our First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles presents us with a glimpse of the early Church, the early Christian community. This passage is often misunderstood in some ways. When it speaks of "communal life," that term is based upon a brief translation of a Greek word which means much more than what it might seem.

The Greek word is *Koinonia* (κοινωνία), which is a broad term meaning association, communion, fellowship, and joint participation. It means to share in something. This is an excellent example of stewardship which has meaning for us today. Our parish is a community, one in which we are all called to share and to participate. *Koinonia* identifies an almost ideal state of fellowship and unity which should exist in the Church, the Body of Christ. It should be more than just attending Mass.

When we speak of stewardship, we understand that it means much more than placing something in the collection basket. It means that we share all of our gifts, our time and talent also, with the community and others in need. It will be difficult for us ever to match the sense of association and the joy of that early Church, but it is a model for us to which we as a faith community should aspire.

To be community and to be in communion with one another and with God requires active participation, not passivity. Father Thomas Merton O.C.S.O. once wrote: "The deepest level of communion is not communication, but communion...beyond speech... beyond concept."

Wildflower Clinic provides FREE high-quality dental and medical care to no-income, low-income, unemployed and homeless St. Johns County residents. (904) 829-1962 or GoodSamStAug.org.