

MARCH 9, 2025

Lent.
Fast, Pray, Give



First Sunday
of Lent

**"ALL ARE
WELCOME HERE"**

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Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

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BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC PARISH

1701 East Oakland Park Blvd. Oakland Park Florida 33334

Our Pastor

Reverend Robert F. Tywoniak,

M.S.W., C.S.W.M

Music Director

Daniel J. Perez

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am & 10:45 am

Daily: Tuesday - Friday

8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Baptism for Infants and Preschool Children under 7 years old

At Baptism, infants and preschool children are initiated into the Christian community and begin a life-long journey as a committed disciple of Christ. Since the child cannot make this commitment on their own, the parent who requests Baptism states that they wish to pass on the faith in which they believe and live. Parents wishing to have their infant or preschooler Baptized are required to attend Baptism Preparation. This gives them the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Baptism and to have their questions answered concerning the Sacrament of Baptism and the ceremony. In order to begin preparing for their child's Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 prior to the anticipated birth or adoption process. We wish to celebrate this joyful time with you!

Marriage

Blessed Sacrament Parish wishes to support couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage through prayer and action. For this reason, guidelines have been established for marriage preparation by the Archdiocese of Miami. This is not done to create obstacles, but to increase the opportunity for a lasting, loving marriage in a society where divorce is prevalent. Couples should contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 at the time of their engagement to allow time to complete the necessary preparation.

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Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm 91

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

Led By the Spirit

Luke tells us Jesus was led into the desert. The Holy Spirit was with Jesus and prepared him for his ministry. The Holy Spirit was with Jesus at the beginning of his ministry. Later we will learn through the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit is with the Church at the beginning of its ministry.

We have begun the Season of Lent. Through our Parish Mission this past week, we have been prepared by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit has healed us through the Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation. Perhaps we will be tested as Jesus was tested in the desert.

At the conclusion of the testing of Jesus, he says to the devil, "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test."

Is Lent a test of ourselves? Is life a test? I do not know if God means to test us. Perhaps it is merely that life goes on and we go through it and many challenges come to us. As I have noticed in my own life, I am asking God to help me through the challenges, and he welcomes my prayer. Then, if I am well-disposed, I recognize and accept God's Grace. The Holy Spirit comes to me and lifts me up.

What I am getting at is this: Maybe God is not deliberately testing me. Life on earth is imperfect and causes me some pain along the way. As much as I like to blame God for all the things that happen to me that I do not like, God is actually the one helping me through the Gifts of His Holy Spirit. God is not trying to harm me but is helping me. However the challenges arise, there is an outcome that comes when God leads us by His Spirit. I find this in the first reading.

Moses teaches the people to have gratitude. Be humble. Know you are wandering through the desert on your own. Then God makes some gesture that awakens you to Grace. With an eye of Faith, come to recognize the little and large ways the Lord has intervened. Then Moses teaches them to respond to the Lord.

The response is to offer "First Fruits". We offer the best of the first crops that rise. Gratitude. We do not offer First Fruits to make God do something for us. We offer First Fruits because God has already done something for us. The Spirit has been present from the very beginning.

Next week's scripture readings.

Second Sunday of Lent:

Gn15:5-12,17-18; Phil3:17-4:1; Lk9:28b-36

Stewardship

Time, Talent Tithing

It is our way of showing gratitude to God for life itself. It is also your way of being part of the mission and participating in the challenge of spreading the Good News of Love.

Attendance last week:	303
Tithes Collected:	\$7,025.50
Per capita:	\$23.19

Second collection is for the Church in Latin America.	\$403.00
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**- THE CHAPEL -
A PLACE TO PRAY AND
MEDITATE**

The Chapel is open for Prayer on Wednesdays during Lent.

Beginning on Wednesday, March 12th, the Chapel will be open for prayer and meditation on Wednesdays between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm. Do come by and join us. Remain in His presence as long as you can.

***Solidarity With Christ and His Faith
Community During Lent.***

What do We Do?

Our corporate disciplines during Lent help us remain one with each other in the faith. We stand proudly together. Our Lenten practices guide us in reflection and lead us to give example of a Grace filled life. That is why we do what we do during Lent.

***Fast and Abstinence
On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.***

To fast is to eat lightly. That is to eat the equivalent of one meal for the whole day.

To abstain means to refrain from something. In this case we abstain from eating meat other than fish.

Abstinence on all Fridays of Lent.

PARISH LIFE

Abstaining from something.

Giving up something for Lent has been a part of Lenten practices for a long time.

- Fast from fault finding and nagging, a critical tongue or closed mind.
- Give up impulse purchases.
- Give up an unhealthy habit, like smoking, drug addiction, pornography.
- Limit time watching T.V. or surfing the WEB.
- Give up fast food and donate the money you save.

DO Something.

Do something good that you have not been doing. Sin is also the sin of omission.

- Go to Mass in the middle of the week besides on Sunday.
- Attend the Stations of the Cross on Thursday evenings during Lent at 7:00pm.
- Read the up-coming scripture readings that are prescribed for Sunday Mass. (Listed in the Bulletin and on our website every week.)
- Volunteer at an apostolate.
- Get up early to pray.

Operation Utility Bag St. Vincent de Paul Society

It is time to pick up your "Utility Bag" for this year's drive to support the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Bring the bag home. Fill it each day with money you would have used on a "treat" for yourself. Or, simply place change, large or small, in the bag each day and let it multiply.

At the End of the Easter Season return the Utility Bag to the church.

This money is used to help pay utility bills for clients of the Society.

THANKS IN ADVANCE!

THE CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY Begins Sunday, March 9th It will follow the 10:45 am Liturgy

The chaplet was promoted by St. Pope John Paul II. It is based on the Spirituality of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalski (1905 -1938). Its central statement is, "O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!"

You will note we have an image of the Divine Mercy in our chapel next to Our Lady's statue.

Gregory Marciszewski will lead the chaplet every Sunday through April 27th. He will explain the Divine Mercy Chaplet on March 9th prior to the recitation of it. The recitation of the chaplet takes about 15 minutes or less. You might find this a meaningful devotion for yourself. Please give the chaplet a try during this special season of the year.

Every Sunday after the 10:45am Liturgy

JOB OPPORTUNITY Maintenance Coordinator Blessed Sacrament Parish

This position encompasses the full range of maintenance responsibilities. It pays a full salary and benefits. Email, snail mail or drop off a resume to the parish office. Make it to the attention of Fr. Bob Tywoniak.

TOGETHER WE PRAY FOR

Angiolina Armenti, Mary Benivegna, Carl Bocchino, Margarita Bogle, Michael Bryant, Helene Falzarano, Ronald Gustinella, Richard & Cathy Harper, Dil Hatchett, Patrick Keough, Doris Lakso, John LaNeve, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Luz Mercado, Carlos Morejon, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Austin R., Fr. Robert (Bob) Traupman, Renette Valcourt, Sr. Frances Vass, OSC, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

4:00p † Julius Delisio by Friends
† Carmela Dee by Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

9:00am † Cliff Powell by Parish
10:45am † Ray Unick by Parish
† Lee Annunziata
by Mark Mazzurco

MONDAY MARCH 10 | NO MASS

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

8:00am † Brittany Spitzer
by Victoria Kimber

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

8:00am † Robert Val Stanek
by Jim D'Apollonia

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

8:00am Pope Francis by Parish

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

8:00am † Stephen Janove
by Ray Flautt &
Jim Sullivan

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

4:00p † Mary-Ellen Batcho and
Stan & Ruth Chaner
by Ed Batcho
Special Intention
by Anonymous

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

9:00am Blessed Sacrament Parish
10:45am † Giuseppa Mastrullo
by Parish
Special Intention
by Anonymous