

Abiding Press

Abiding Presence Faith Community

A PARISH OF THE REFORMED CATHOLIC CHURCH
AN INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
MAKING GOD'S LOVE KNOWN IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

OCTOBER 2024 VOLUME 3 #11
5330 Poinsetta Ave, Winter Park, FL 32792
321-594-4922
Office info@apfcwp.com

Sunday Mass is Celebrated at 12:30 pm
The Sanctuary Building of the First United Church of Christ
4605 Curry Ford Rd., Orlando, Florida 32812

Social Media

Web Site www.apfcwp.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1386619738179316/?ref=bookmarks>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP9i133esG31IRPfgk-Jn4w>

Clergy Serving the People of God

Pastor: Most Rev. William R. Cavins pastor@apfcwp.com

Palm Coast FL Ministry: Rev. Mr. Christopher M. Larsen

Volunteer Staff Serving the Parish

Gene L. Thompson II - Technology TechSupport@apfcwp.onmicrosoft.com

Dennis Last - JMB Crock Pot Ministry

Klaus Stodtmann - Bread Baking kstodtmann@apfcwp.onmicrosoft.com

Mass Intentions & Prayer Requests

If you would like to have someone remembered during Mass or added to our Prayer Lists, please email the bishop with your request. Your donation to support our community is greatly appreciated and can be made according to your discretion. Additionally, we offer Mass Cards that you can send to recipients to let them know they are in our prayers. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Upcoming Dates

- October 6 Divine Worship – 27th Sunday of the Christian Year 12:30 PM
 Intention: Members of the various Franciscan Orders
- October 9 Formation Class - 7 PM Invitation Only
- October 11 Divine Worship – Diocesan Patronal Feast St John XXIII 6:30 PM
 Intention: People and Clergy of the Diocese of St John XXIII
- October 13 Divine Worship – 28th Sunday of the Christian Year 12:30 PM
 Communal Anointing of the Sick
 Intention: Healthcare Workers
- October 14 At Home with the Word on Zoom 7:00 PM
- October 15 Crock Pot Class –10 AM
 Dedicated Senior Medical 904 Lee Rd., Orlando
- October 16 Crock Pot Class –10 AM
 Dedicated Senior Medical 4270 Aloma Ave Winter Park
- October 19 Formation Class – 7 PM Invitation Only
- October 19 Come Out with Pride – Lake Eola 12 to 10 PM
- October 20 Divine Worship – 29th Sunday of the Christian Year 12:30 PM
 Intention: People of the Parish
- October 21 At Home with the Word on Zoom 7:00 PM
- October 23 Formation Class - 7 PM Invitation Only
- October 27 Divine Worship – 30th Sunday of the Christian Year 12:30 PM
 Intention: Safety of Children on Halloween
- October 28 At Home With the Word on Zoom at 7:00 PM
- October 30 Formation Class - 7 PM Invitation Only
- October 31 Happy Eve of All Hallows**

*SCAP = Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest

Financial Update as of 10/23/2024

Total Income Year to Date: \$11260.60. Total Expenditures Year to Date: **\$11959.12**. Difference **-\$698.52**. Ledger Balance On Hand: \$1992.40. Available Balance on hand: \$1729.40.

Make a Difference with Your Donation

You can now easily make donations online through our website! For the most efficient processing of your donation, we recommend using Zelle. If you choose a different payment method, please ensure that your donation is sent as if to an individual.

Thank you for your generosity and support! **Our email address for all donation platforms is: bkpg@apfcwp.com**

From the Bishop's Desk

Happy Pride Month!

While the rest of the country typically celebrates Pride in June, October offers a cooler climate here in Central Florida for Pride gatherings and parades. I'm thrilled to share that the Board of Directors has approved funding for a booth at the **Come Out With Pride Festival** in Orlando on October 19, in collaboration with First UCC.



This month, I'd like to delve into a significant question: Should LGBTQI+ persons be welcomed in the Church? This topic touches on profound theological, pastoral, and ethical issues and reflects diverse perspectives within Christianity. Many contemporary Christian communities, including ours, advocate for the full inclusion of LGBTQI+ individuals, asserting that all people are created in the image of God and deserve love, respect, and acceptance. These communities work to embody this inclusivity by welcoming LGBTQI+ persons and addressing any barriers to their full participation in church life. Conversely, some denominations adhere to traditional teachings on sexuality and marriage, offering pastoral care to LGBTQI+ individuals while maintaining conservative views on same-sex relationships. These perspectives emphasize preserving doctrinal integrity while striving to treat LGBTQI+ individuals with compassion and respect.

Pastoral care and compassion are central to this discussion, regardless of doctrinal stance. Many Christian communities stress the importance of showing compassion, offering

support, and fostering a welcoming environment for all, including LGBTQI+ individuals. The aim is to create a space where everyone can experience the love and grace of God. Considering what Jesus might do, his teachings and actions as recorded in the Gospels suggest a model of radical inclusivity and compassion. Jesus reached out to marginalized and excluded groups of his time, such as the sick, sinners, and social outcasts. His ministry was marked by a profound commitment to love and acceptance. For example, he dined with tax collectors and sinners, healed those deemed unclean, and engaged with individuals on society's fringes. These actions underscore his dedication to welcoming and embracing those who were often left out.

Jesus also challenged rigid interpretations of religious law that were used to exclude or condemn others. He emphasized inviting people into a personal relationship with God rather than adhering strictly to legalistic rules, suggesting that relationship and love are central to how we engage with others.

In conclusion, many believe that LGBTQI+ persons should be welcomed into the Church with the same love and acceptance that Jesus extended to all individuals. The focus on love, compassion, and inclusion in Jesus' ministry offers a powerful framework for addressing contemporary issues related to LGBTQI+ inclusion. Although different Christian communities may reach various conclusions based on their interpretations of scripture and tradition, the principle of extending love and compassion remains central to the discussion.

I am incredibly proud that at Abiding Presence, we welcome and celebrate all people in their diversity.

In Christ's Love

+William

Pastor



Pinwheels for Peace: Symbol of Unity and Hope

We hosted our first Pinwheels for Peace event Sept 21, 2024, celebrating the International Day of Peace. It was a beautiful day outside to be creative and celebrate our desire for peace around the world.



Patronal Feast of John XXIII



John XXIII

October 11, we will mark the Feast of Saint John XXIII, the patron of our Diocese. We will celebrate mass at 6:30 pm at the Bishop's residence. Individuals may wish to read "**Pacem in Terris**" - This encyclical, written by Pope John XXIII in 1963, emphasizes peace, human rights, and the dignity of every person. It's a profound reflection on social justice and the importance of dialogue in building a more harmonious world.

All Souls' Day Mass: Honoring and Remembering Loved Ones

November 2nd, All Souls' Day is a poignant occasion for the faithful to unite in prayer for the souls in purgatory, asking for God's mercy and grace to guide them towards eternal peace.

During the All Souls' Day Mass, the liturgy is deeply reflective, focusing on the Church's doctrine of purgatory and the belief in the communion of saints. The Mass often features prayers specifically for the deceased, offering the congregation an opportunity to express their love and remembrance for those who have passed away. The homily and readings are carefully chosen to provide comfort and hope, emphasizing the promise of eternal life and the power of communal prayer.

In preparation for this sacred day, many churches invite parishioners to submit the names of their deceased loved ones for inclusion in the Mass. This act of remembrance is both a personal and communal gesture, reinforcing the bonds of faith and family. By listing these names, you ensure that your loved ones are remembered in the prayers and intentions of

the entire congregation, offering them a special place in the collective memory of the Church.

To submit names for remembrance at the All Souls' Day Mass, please provide a list of your loved ones to the parish office by October 31, You may also include any special intentions or requests for prayers. Submissions can be made in person, by mail, email, or through the parish's online portal.

Let us come together in faith on All Souls' Day to offer our prayers and support for the souls of the departed, cherishing their memory and trusting in God's eternal promise.

First UCC Holiday Shop

Joni's Treasures Thrift Shop will hold a Christmas Sale on Wednesday, November 6th, and Wednesday, November 13th. The sale items will be set up in the fellowship room behind the sanctuary. Come out and support this effort.

Gift of Sight Campaign

Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting old prescription glasses to donate to the Lions Club. They will repurpose them for people who are in need to glasses in our community. Please look for the box in the narthex of the church.

The Central Florida Pledge

The Central Florida Pledge is a call to action for residents of Central Florida who are tired of hateful discourse and want to create a safe and inclusive community for all. The pledge asks residents to commit to treating all people with kindness and respect, especially those with whom they disagree.

THE PLEDGE

I WILL lead by example, treating all people, especially those with whom I disagree, with kindness and respect

I WILL refrain from inflammatory words and actions, and actively support those being attacked

I WILL report threatening incidents of hate and violence to 800-423-TIPS (8477)

I WILL educate myself about antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism, homophobia, and all other forms of discrimination, and help others in my circle of influence to do the same

Mission

The Central Florida Pledge is a community-driven initiative to combat antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of hate and discrimination in our region. We believe that Central Florida has long been a community of inclusion for all, and we pledge to continue to create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone who calls Central Florida home.

Vision

We envision a Central Florida where everyone feels safe and respected, regardless of their faith, race, gender, ethnicity, culture, beliefs, or identity. We believe that our diversity is our strength, and we are committed to creating a community where everyone can thrive.

Values

- Inclusion: We believe that everyone belongs in Central Florida, and we are committed to creating a community where everyone feels welcome.
- Respect: We believe that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their background.
- Education: We believe that education is essential to combating hate and discrimination. We are committed to educating ourselves and others about the dangers of prejudice and bigotry.
- Safety: We stand with any group or individuals who are being threatened or harassed in hostile environments. We are committed to taking action and creating a community that is safe and protected for all.

How You Can Get Involved

There are many ways to get involved in the Central Florida Pledge. You can:

- Sign The Pledge: Take the first step by signing our pledge to stand against hate and discrimination.
- Educate yourself: Learn more about antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of discrimination.
- Speak out against hate: When you see or hear something, stand with those who are being marginalized.
- Support organizations that are fighting hate: Donate your time, money, or resources to organizations that are working to combat hate and discrimination.

Bishop Cavins has signed the pledge at <https://www.centralfloridapledge.com/> and invites you to do the same.

JMB Crockpot Ministry

Crockpot Donations and Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently low on crockpots and would greatly appreciate your support. If you can donate a crockpot or are interested in volunteering to lead a class, please reach out to Dennis Last at 321-388-1572.

Upcoming Crock Pot Classes:

- **Date:** October 15, 2024
- **Time:** 10:00 AM
- **Location:** Dedicated Senior Medical Center, 904 Lee Rd., Orlando

- **Date:** October 16, 2024
- **Time:** 10:00 AM
- **Location:** Dedicated Senior Medical Center, 94270 Aloma Ave Winter Park

To register for the classes, please email us at Info@apfcwp.com.

Are you looking to become more involved in our parish?

We have a variety of opportunities for you to contribute and make a difference throughout the week. Here's how you can get involved:

- **Sundays:** Join us in a range of roles including readers, technical support, musicians, singers, altar servers, and Eucharistic Ministers. Your participation enriches our worship experience.
- **Mondays and Tuesdays:** Help us with our Crock Pot Classes. If you're interested in presenting, please reach out to Dennis Last for more information.
- **Tuesdays:** Volunteer at Rebecca's Pantry in the morning. Your assistance can make a significant impact on those in need.
- **Wednesdays:** Contribute to our Thrift Shop. We need enthusiastic helpers to support this valuable outreach.
- **Ongoing:** We are also establishing a new ministry for Special Ministers to the Sick. This role is a wonderful opportunity to provide comfort and support to those who are ill.

So much to choose from! Reflect on how you might be called to serve and make a difference. What is God inviting you to do?

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or have questions, please contact [appropriate contact person/office] for more details. We look forward to your involvement and contributions to our parish community!

Differences Between Homily and Sermon

A sermon and a homily are both forms of religious discourse but differ significantly in their structure, purpose, and delivery. A sermon is a formal and often lengthy discourse delivered during a religious service with the primary aim of providing spiritual guidance, teaching moral or doctrinal lessons, and inspiring the congregation. Sermons typically involve an in-depth analysis of biblical texts and can cover a wide range of topics relevant to faith and practice. They usually follow a structured format that includes an introduction, a main body with several points, and a conclusion. This detailed approach allows the preacher to explore theological concepts and motivate the congregation towards specific moral or spiritual actions. Sermons are generally delivered in a more formal style and can last from 20 to 45 minutes or more, often tailored to a larger and more diverse audience.

In contrast, a homily is a shorter and more informal reflection delivered during a liturgical service, often focusing on the specific scripture readings for that day. The homily's purpose is to offer immediate, practical insights and connections between the scripture and the everyday lives of the congregation. Unlike sermons, homilies are generally brief, ranging from 5 to 15 minutes, and are characterized by their spontaneous and conversational tone. They are closely tied to the day's readings and often include personal anecdotes or reflections that make the message more relatable and accessible. Homilies are delivered within the context of regular worship services, especially in traditions such as Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and some branches of Anglicanism, and are intended to resonate directly with the immediate experiences of the congregation present.

Thus, while both sermons and homilies serve to communicate religious teachings, sermons tend to be more formal, structured, and comprehensive, addressing broader theological themes, whereas homilies are shorter, more informal, and focused specifically on interpreting the day's scripture in a practical and immediate manner.

Prayer for Vocations

Gracious God, we give thanks for your call to both women and men to serve in Christ's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. We ask that you send your Holy Spirit to inspire and guide others to respond with generosity and courage to your call. May our community of faith nurture and support vocations rooted in sacrificial love, especially among our youth and young adults. Through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

New Candidates in Formation

In September Bishops Carpenter and Cavins began working with 4 new candidates for Holy Orders in the Reformed Catholic Church. They are Kenneth Gladding (NY), Robert Griznell (TX), Kody Hall (TN), and Brian Ipock (TN). Please keep them in your prayers.



Ken

Kody

Robert

Brian

Family Faith Activities
Courtesy of LTP's At Home with the Word 2024.

October 6, 2024

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Christian Year

Questions

1. Why do you think God said that it isn't good for a person to be alone? What happens to people who are alone? Why do we need to love in order to be whole? What love sustains people who choose celibacy?
2. God is love in a community of persons. How does your family fit this same description? Your parish? How can you encourage loving community around you?
3. What parallels do you see between the relationship of husband and wife and that of Jesus and his Church? How are Jesus and his Church faithful to one another?

Activities

1. Help your child better understand the kiss of peace at Mass. Note that the priest and deacon kiss the altar and the Book of the Gospels, showing love and reverence for the presence of God in his Word and the Eucharist. In our exchange of peace, we also demonstrate love and reverence for the presence of God in the priest and each other. In acknowledging this presence, we ritually declare ourselves a community united in Christ, forgiving one another in his name, and lovingly preparing to join in the communion of the Eucharist.
2. In the intimacy of family, inhibitions are relaxed and slights magnified; thus the adage: "We hurt most the ones we love." Advice columnists often counsel, "Don't let the sun set on your anger," or "Never bring up the past." How can families sustain charity, making their needs known to one another and earnestly acknowledging and respecting each other's needs? Would your family benefit from written ground rules for disagreements, rituals for forgiveness, or the help of a counselor? God created each of you for love.
3. Reach out to someone who is alone. Invite a lonely neighbor to join you monthly or weekly for supper, a movie night, or some other treat. Volunteer to read aloud to someone whose sight is impaired. Offer to lead a craft activity at an assisted living facility.

October 13, 2024

Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Christian Year

Questions

1. Most of us aren't asked to give up all of our possessions for Jesus. Many, however, make moral or ethical choices that cost us dearly. What have you sacrificed to follow your conscience?
2. Living in harmony with God's wisdom often puts us at variance with cultural values, family desires, or personal convenience. How do you respond when following Christ causes conflict in your life?
3. How is God's Word living and effective in your daily life? How often in a typical day do you think your faith affects your decisions?

Activities

1. Point out to your child that the Mass has two major parts; one focused on God's living presence in his Word, and one focused on God's living presence in the Eucharist. Help your child identify this transition in the liturgy. Note that attention shifts from the ambo, from which the Word of God was spoken, toward the preparation of the altar, where the gifts of bread and wine will become the Body and Blood of Christ.
2. As a compass arrow is oriented toward true north, so our lives should be oriented toward the true God. To make a simple compass, you'll need a sewing needle, a magnet, and a small piece of cork. Rub the tip of the needle against the magnet twenty-five to thirty times, always in the same direction. Push the needle carefully through the cork and place it in a nonmetallic bowl or sink of water. If the needle is properly magnetized, no matter which way you point it, the tip will turn toward true north. Explain to your child that God's Word is our compass, always pointing toward goodness and truth.
3. Look through your closets and give to the poor. Choose things that are in good condition and still stylish or desirable. Stretch yourselves and donate at least one item each that you aren't sure you want give up. Pray over the items, asking that God will bless those who use them as he has blessed you.

October 20, 2024

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Christian Year

Questions

1. Grace is not a divine shield that deflects all suffering, but it is God's gratuitous help, especially in times of trial. When have you been most aware of God's grace in your life?

2. How is it a grace to know that no matter what we suffer, God's own Son suffered just as much or more? How did Jesus show God's love and grace through suffering?
3. James and John, in today's Gospel, ask for honor, glory, and power as signs of God's favor. Jesus instead offers servitude and lowliness. When have you seen the grace of God manifested in humble service, simplicity, and lowliness?

Activities

1. God pours his gracious kindness lavishly upon all who call to him. We respond to God's grace with praise and hope. Invite your child to listen closely to today's responsorial psalm as it describes God as kind and just. Tell your child about a time in your life when you trusted the Lord and were not disappointed. Add the refrain of today's psalm to your daily prayers this week: "Lord, let your mercy be on us, / as we place our trust in you" (33:22).
2. Take turns this week serving each other in ways outside your normal routine. Older children may bring their parents breakfast in bed or do a younger sibling's chores. Young children may hang up a parent's jacket or make an older sibling's bed. Spouses may switch chores, each doing one disliked task that the other usually does. A parent may do a child's least-liked duty or bring a snack to a child who is comfortably reading or watching a movie. Discuss how it feels to choose to serve.
3. Invite each family member to name one person through whom he or she feels God's love. Discuss what these people have in common, how they act, and what you can learn from them. Send each a note to affirm them and let them know what goodness you see in them. Let your child decorate the cards or envelopes. Pray that God will continue to bless the efforts of these people who serve him.

October 27, 2024

Thirtieth Sunday of the Christian Year

Questions

1. Today's readings speak of God calling us to life, joy, vocation, and healing. To what has God called you lately?
2. Those who rebuked Bartimaeus for crying out to Jesus were also the ones who told him that Jesus was calling him. Who or what has made you aware of God's call?
3. Jeremiah proclaims God's provision for the most vulnerable among those whom he calls: the blind and lame, mothers and those with child. Jesus provides healing for Bartimaeus, who then follows him. What are your weaknesses, how does God strengthen you for the journey, and how can your vulnerability serve God?

Activities

1. Jesus called Bartimaeus, who didn't hesitate to respond. Help your child recognize that Jesus calls us throughout the Mass to community, to repentance, to active

participation, to Eucharist, and to service. See if your child can identify at least one way that God calls and we respond during the liturgy.

2. Sometimes we use the word see to mean “understand.” For example, we might say, “Do you see what I mean?” As Jesus helped blind Bartimaeus see with his eyes, so he helps us understand with our hearts and minds. Play Pin-the-Tail-on-the-Donkey or another blindfold game and discuss how hard it is to complete a task that we cannot see. Explain that it’s hard to find fullness of life when we can’t understand the goodness of God. Praise God for the gift of understanding.
3. Many people have old pairs of prescription eyeglasses that they’re no longer using, while other people, especially in Third-World countries, need glasses that they can’t afford. Some who would be employable if they could see, instead beg on the streets, like Bartimaeus. Most people don’t know, however, that quite a few prescription lens franchises accept donated glasses for charity. Locate one in your community, ask your parish to host a “gift of sight” drive, and offer to transport collected glasses to the participating store.

Outstanding October Saints

In October, we honor several saints with their feast days and memorials:

- **October 1:** St. Therese of Lisieux
- **October 2:** Saint Thomas of Hereford
- **October 3:** Saint Mother Theodore Guerin
- **October 4:** Saints Francis of Assisi
- **October 5:** Saint Anna Schaeffer
- **October 7:** Saints Sergius & Bacehus
- **October 8:** Saint Keyne
- **October 9:** Saint John Henry Newman
- **October 10:** Saint Daniel
- **October 11:** Saint John XXIII (Diocesan Patron)
- **October 12:** Saint Carlos Acutis
- **October 14:** Saint Calixtus
- **October 15:** Saint Teresa of Avila
- **October 16:** Saint Kiara
- **October 17:** Saint John Kolobos
- **October 18:** Saint Luke the Evangelist
- **October 19:** Saint Laura
- **October 21:** Saint Ursula
- **October 22:** Saint Mark, Bishop of Jerusalem
- **October 23:** Saint Paul Tong Buong
- **October 24:** Martyrs of Nagran
- **October 25:** Tabitha

- **October 26:** Saint Alfred the Great
- **October 28:** Saint Jude Thaddaeus
- **October 29:** Saint Terence of Metz
- **October 30:** Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez
- **October 31:** Saint Quentin
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Which saint is your favorite? Which saint will you dress up as for Halloween. Share your thoughts on our Facebook page!

October Recipes

In Honor of the Feast of Saint Francis on October 4 our recipes are for pets.

Tune Treats for Kitty

Ingredients:

- 1 large butternut squash, peeled and cut into large cubes (about 8 cups)
- 6 ounces undrained tuna
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 egg
- 2 T water

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Place all ingredients into mixing bowl, stir well until soft dough forms.
3. Let dough rest for 10 minutes.
4. Cover large surface with cornmeal and roll dough out until ¼ inch thick.
5. Use either a small cookie cutter or knife to cut into shapes.
6. Place on parchment paper lined cookie sheet and bake for 15-20 minutes.
7. Let cool and serve to kitty!

Liver Canine Brownies

Ingredients:

- 1 pound liver ground in food processor
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 cup of cornmeal
- 1 egg
- ¼ to ½ cup of water
- Dash of garlic salt

Directions:

1. Process until mixed. Should have the consistency of brownie dough.
2. Spread out on a greased cookie sheet.
3. Bake at 350 F for $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ hour.
4. Cut into squares while warm, then cool. Keep in refrigerator.