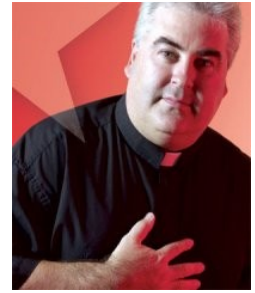




Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Saturdays 4pm
Sundays 7:30am, 9am & 11am
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Bellevue, FL 34420
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Mother's Day History

Contrary to popular belief, Mother's Day was not conceived and fine-tuned in the boardroom of Hallmark. The earliest tributes to mothers date back to the annual spring festival the Greeks dedicated to Rhea, the mother of many deities, and to the offerings ancient Romans made to their Great Mother of Gods, Cybele. Christians celebrated this festival on the fourth Sunday in Lent in honor of Mary, mother of Christ. In England this holiday was expanded to include all mothers and was called Mothering Sunday.



In the United States, Mother's Day started nearly 150 years ago, when Anna Jarvis, an Appalachian homemaker, organized a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions in her community, a cause she believed would be best advocated by mothers. She called it "Mother's Work Day."



Fifteen years later, Julia Ward Howe, a Boston poet, pacifist, suffragist, and author of the lyrics to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," organized a day encouraging mothers to rally for peace, since she believed they bore the loss of human life more harshly than anyone else.

In 1905 when Anna Jarvis died, her daughter, also named Anna, began a campaign to memorialize the life work of her mother. Legend has it that young Anna remembered a Sunday school lesson that her mother gave in which she said, "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day. There are many days for men, but none for mothers."

Anna began to lobby prominent businessmen like John Wannamaker, and politicians including Presidents Taft and Roosevelt to support her campaign to create a special day to honor mothers. At one of the first services organized to celebrate Anna's mother in 1908, at her church in West Virginia, Anna handed out her mother's favorite flower, the white carnation. Five years later, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling for officials of the federal government to wear white carnations on Mother's Day. In 1914 Anna's hard work paid off when Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday.

At first, people observed Mother's Day by attending church, writing letters to their mothers, and eventually, by sending cards, presents, and flowers. With the increasing gift-giving activity associated with Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis became enraged. She believed that the day's sentiment was being sacrificed at the expense of greed and profit. In 1923 she filed a lawsuit to stop a Mother's Day festival, and was even arrested for disturbing the peace at a convention selling carnations for a war mother's group. Before her death in 1948, Jarvis is said to have confessed that she regretted ever starting the mother's day tradition.

Despite Jarvis's misgivings, Mother's Day has flourished in the United States. In fact, the second Sunday of May has become the most popular day of the year to dine out, and telephone lines record their highest traffic, as sons and daughters everywhere take advantage of this day to honor and to express appreciation of their mothers.

Taken from the website of: <http://mothers-day.123holiday.net>

Confirmation Class YMS of R Men's Group



The Confirmation Class with Father Tom Basta is now on a summer break and will return in the fall. The return date will be announced at a later time.

The next YMS of R meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20th at 9:00am at Cal's Restaurant in Belleview. All men from the parish are encouraged to attend. If you are new to the parish, this is a good opportunity for you to meet some of the men of our parish.



St. Paul Choir

We have a fantastic, spirited choir here at St. Paul's, under the direction of Charley Stoykovich. We are still looking for singers for our Saturday and Sunday Masses. Anyone interested in joining the choir can meet here at the church on Tuesdays at 6:00pm for practice.



The Adoration Society of the Most Blessed

Adoracja Najświętszego Sakramentu

A.N.S.

Who are we and what do we do? We are a Christ driven Society. The most important purpose is the worship and love of Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament. It is an honor and privilege for our members to hold a lighted candle during holy mass as an expression of this love. We wear our medals to show unity with our sisters in Christ throughout the world. Through our care of the altar, our fundraising activities with our sister members and holding the lighted candle, we show our devotion to serving the Lord and his holy church. Father Mark is our spiritual advisor guiding and supporting us in our spiritual direction. We meet 5 times a year. May is membership month. If you would be interested in joining our joyful fun loving group or would like to know more about us, please contact me, Dori Canfield 233-9961, or doricandfield@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you.



May is the month of our Blessed Mother, her color is blue. We will honor her with flowers throughout the month.

On Saturday May 16th we will meet at Nancy Lopez at 12:00 noon for lunch and our final meeting before summer break. All ladies of our church are welcome. Please let me know if you can make it (I need a count for the restaurant).

Wishing you all a happy and Blessed Mothers Day.

In his service,
Dori Canfield, ANS President



Father Mark's bible study class on Thursday mornings is now on a summer break and will return in the fall. The return date will be announce at a later time.



Greeting Card Club

The date for the next Greeting Card Club meeting will be announced by Father Mark and an email with the date will also be sent out to everyone. If you haven't had the chance to find out about our greeting card program, please join us that day for a fun and worthwhile outreach project. The Lenten Season is a perfect time to put your faith into action in this easy and creative way.



Backpack Program

Our mainstay charitable program provides local homeless school children with personal care/hygiene items all year round. Please drop off items anytime on the rectory porch or at church on Sundays in the bins at the back of the church.



Birthdays

- 1st** Diane Hollinsworth
Fernando Varela
- 5th** Bob Haeussler
- 6th** Leona Curtis
- 13th** Sandy Elstad
- 14th** Ron Edmiston
- 18th** Walter Arruda
- 19th** Travis Thorpe
- 20th** Shirley Whalen
- 23rd** Dotty Middleton
Dick Pierce
Linda Thompson
- 24th** Loretta Keegstra
- 28th** Don Ditto
Cindy Yackowski
- 29th** Carol Andrews
- 30th** Peg Brosig
- 31st** Lisa Maynard
Valda Niznik

Old Nail Polish Bottles

We have received a request from Father Mark's wife, Valda, (who is principle of Wyomina Park Elementary School in Ocala), that they are in need of old nail polish bottles. If you can help out it would be greatly appreciated. There will be an empty bin inside of the church for you to drop them off.



Anniversaries

- 2nd** Ron & Dottie Edmiston
- 5th** Frank & Rita Carbone
Bill & Dotty Smith
- 6th** Bernie & Marlene Kress
- 9th** John & Linda Enot
- 15th** Joseph & Helen Berdechowski
- 18th** Gary & Diane Hollinsworth
- 20th** Dick & Jan Nowak

* Members: if your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform Debbie Niznik.



Golf League



Our church golf league meets each Tuesday of every month at 8:30am at Spruce Creek Del Webb in Summerfield. Golfers are paired into groups of 4 players in scramble format. If any men or women are interested in joining our fun league, please contact Susan Hilt at 352-307-2129. Bring your friends. All are welcome. Sign up sheets will be posted in the social hall.

Spaghetti Dinners



Come and bring your friends to our weekly all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners on Fridays from 4:00-7:00pm. Dinners include salad, roll & butter, and your choice of a free beverage - either coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. Adults are just \$6.00 and Children 12yrs and younger are FREE. There are also homemade desserts from our Ladies ANS Society for only \$1.00 each. If you are bringing a large group, please contact Bob Canfield at 352-454-8673. Please let him know how many are in your party and what time you will arrive, and he will reserve your table(s) for you.

Finding Peace in the Face of Loss Support Group



Hello everyone, I am Diane Hollinsworth, a member of our St. Paul Parish. Father Mark and I have discussed the effects of loss in the lives of our church family. This has led us to further discussion regarding other losses due to factors such as financial, drug related, estrangement, and more.

Loss is never easy and somehow the effects of losses are more keenly apparent throughout the holiday season. Loss has many faces - the passing of a loved one, the loved one who is still present but incapacitated through trauma or disease, personal changes in your own ability to participate in life as you once did due to illness or other circumstances, and loss of family or loved one's presence due to moving, imprisonment, or addictions. It is also present in the feeling of helplessness with the loss of employment and the subsequent impact and anxiety of the financial stresses that ensue. These are just a few of the circumstances in life that leaves us struggling to find the peace and strength to move forward.

I am a hospice nurse and have seen how difficult it can be to navigate the process of learning how to find peace with the new reality. I have also seen how that process can be made easier when shared with others, especially when faith is at the foundation.

In response to folks desiring better understanding and to help foster a more peaceful spirit, Father Mark has approved the establishment of a support group here at St. Paul's. Please take some time to search inwardly to see if you may benefit in some way from attending. Our next meeting will be held in the social hall after the Saturday 10:00am morning Mass for Anointing of the Sick & Intentions for Departed on May 2, 2015.

Words for Thought



"To Our Lady"

Lovely Lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray!

God was just your little boy, tell me what to say!

Did you lift him up sometimes, gently, on your knee?

Did you sing to him the way Mother does to me?

Did you hold his hand at night?

Did you ever try telling stories of the world?

Oh! And did he cry?

Do you really think he cares if I tell him things - little things that happen?

And do the Angels' wings make a noise?

And can he hear me if I speak low?

Does he understand me now?

Tell me for you know, lovely lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray!

God was just your little boy. And you know the way.