



Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Sunday 11:00am
5245 SE 112th Street
Bellevue, FL 34420
(352) 245-2061
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Parish News

Advent marks the start of the Christmas season and the new year in the Church. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30th, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and lasts four Sundays. The date it begins changes from year to year. As a result, so does the length of each Advent season. This year the first Sunday in Advent is December 3, 2023.

The word *advent*, from Latin, means “the coming.” It is a time of spiritual reflection. We look to experience penitential as well as cheerful anticipation.

An Advent wreath is made from green to symbolize continuous life and contains four candles -- three purple and one rose. Often a fifth candle (white) is added to the center of the wreath for lighting on Christmas Eve, in celebration of the birth of Jesus.

The progressive weekly lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord’s first coming in to the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

First Sunday of Advent: Hope

One purple candle is lit to symbolize Hope.

Second Sunday: Peace

Two purple candles are lit - Hope & Peace

Third Sunday (Gaudete Sunday): Joy

Two purple candles (Hope & Peace) and one rose is lit to symbolize Joy.

Fourth Sunday: Love

All four candles are lit - Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Christmas Eve:

We light all four candles and add the fifth white candle which represents the light of Christ.





Dine in or Take out from 4 - 7pm each Friday for an amazing New England seafood style meal! Order either the Haddock or Shrimp or Chicken, that comes with sides of coleslaw, potato waves and the veggie of the day! There's also complimentary tea, lemonade and coffee! The donation is \$15 per meal, with an additional option to have your seafood pan seared. Try one of our amazing, great portioned, homemade desserts from our Adoration Society for just \$2. Word is getting out about how terrific our Fish Frys are, so please keep supporting the efforts of our Christ-centered volunteers! If you'd like to join in the fun, any amount of time you can give is greatly appreciated! Even just one Friday every other month would be great! Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Bob Canfield for details (352) 454-8677

The Young Men's Society of Resurrection (YMS of R)



The next YMS of R meeting will be Thursday, December 21st at 12:00 noon in the social hall following the bible study class at 11:00am and lunch afterwards at Pasta Faire. All gentlemen of the parish are invited and encouraged to join us in fellowship. If you are new to the parish, this is a good opportunity for you to meet some of the men of our parish.

YMS of R members and their guests meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5pm for a casual get together at the Mancave. Usually pizza or burgers. Open to all men of the parish. For any questions please see or contact Mark Gilbert at (410) 419-0821.

Ladies Adoration Society



Ribbons bought, trays arrived, wrapping paper ready. We now need as many bakers as we can get to bake cookies, lots of them to help us fill these beautiful trays. Baked cookies can be dropped off in the Social Hall on Saturday, December 16th between 9:00am and 10:00am, also Friday night at the Fish Fry.

Cookie Tray Raffle Tickets are now on sale. The drawing will be December 16th. Father Mark will draw the winning tickets. The proceeds are used for the upkeep of our church Altar and Father Mark's vestments. Tickets will be sold in the Social Hall after Sunday Mass and at the Friday night Fish Fry.. Tickets are 1 for \$2.00, 3 for \$5.00 and **15 for \$10.00. (That's how you win!).**

On behalf of our Adoration Society, we thank you for your never-ending support and wish you Christ's choicest blessings and a joyful and Happy Christmas Season.

In His service,

Dori Canfield, President

The Adoration Society



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

Sunday, Dec. 24th
Masses will be at 11:00am
and 7:00pm.

Christmas Day

Monday, Dec. 25th
Mass will be at 11:00am



Father Mark's bible study class meets every Thursday morning at 11:00am here at St. Paul's social hall. This ongoing class is for everyone interested in finding out more about their faith. Father Mark brings us many pearls of Scripture each week and whether you are a first time bible reader or an astute learned scriptural connoisseur, there's something special in the Word of God for everyone. You are encouraged to bring a friend.



Clean Kids Back Pack 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 front of the church.



Birthdays

- 1st Anne O'Neill
- 7th John Brian Clark
- 8th Deb Williams
- 10th Bette McGuire
Louise Waszczak
- 13th Harry Moebs
Debbie Niznik
- 16th Robert Smith
- 19th Lydia Kowalski Cane
- 25th David Bailey
- 27th Frances Salzman
- 31st Kathy Lazenby



Anniversaries

- 1st John & Pat Kirby
- 28th Ben & Dorothy Boogaard
- 30th Louis & Irene Torresin

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



For December, there is an envelope entitled: **Christmas Decorations**. This is used for the poinsettias and other decorations for the Christmas Season.

Offering Envelopes



The 2024 Offering Envelopes will be available around the middle of December.

The month of December is designated for the **Seminary Fund**. Parish members can donate to this fund by using their Seminary Fund envelope. Also, if you are not a member and would like to donate to this fund, please use a Love Offering envelope found in the church pews and mark it "**Seminary Fund**". This fund is used to help promote vocations and assist seminarians in their formation to the diaconate and priesthood. Thank you for your considerations.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6 NIV)



HIERS-BAXLEY
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Honoring Memories

Robert T. "Bob" Roche
Location Leader
Robert.Roche@Hiers-Baxley.net

(352) 245 - 2424
Hiers-Baxley.com
5946 SE Robinson Rd • Belleview 34420

Our Parish is joining in support of an event sponsored by Catholic Charities of Central Florida, with the purpose of helping the underprivileged receive medical and dental care. Please check out the announcement and donation form and give consideration toward helping. Blessings, Father Mark.



Taste of THE VILLAGES



The Brownwood Hotel & Spa
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 5:00 pm

Event: Get your cowboy boots and hat ready for some fun! Chow down on a culinary tour of the region, as more than 13 local restaurants showcase their best fare to benefit the medically needy. Guests will enjoy the cocktail hour with tastings, silent auction, share the wealth raffle, cash bar, fun photo booth, contests and prizes! **Dress code:** Western optional (contest for best dressed cowboy & cowgirl). **Tickets are \$75 per person.**

Why: Funds raised support Catholic Charities of Central Florida's Lazarus Free Medical and Dental Clinics. Lazarus serves uninsured men, women and children who are living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. Last year, over 1,400 visits were provided to the poor and uninsured in our community.

At Catholic Charities of Central Florida, we believe that medical and dental care are basic human rights everyone should have access to, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status. Unfortunately, so many of our neighbors today are uninsured. Being uninsured is not a singular problem; it is a symptom of a greater problem. Over 13,000 individuals in Sumter County are living in poverty including 29% of the children who live here. Unemployment, transportation issues, the high cost of medical care and limited number of healthcare professionals in the county all collide to create barriers for people in desperate need of medical care.

How you can help: Purchase tickets to attend the event, make a donation to the auction, become a sponsor, or make a donation of any amount. Tickets are \$75 per person/\$750 per table of ten. Various Sponsorship opportunities range from \$2,500-\$10,000.

Silent auction: Consider donating gift cards, gift baskets, or gift certificates. We will gladly accept any new items that may be of value. Our guests love wine, liquor and golf outings. Donations help us maximize our fundraising efforts and your donation is tax deductible! Call us for ideas and suggestions.

Please contact me with your decision as soon as possible so that we can begin promoting your business on our website and in our event newsletter. This is a sell-out event and you will not want to miss the opportunity to attend or promote your business to over 1,000 residents of the Villages.

Your support of will help sustain the clinics, and allow us to continue to provide medical service to the community, free of charge. Thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity.

For more information, contact Renee Baker (407) 451-5315





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Please consider donating gift cards, gift baskets, or gift certificates. We will gladly accept any new items that may be of value. Donations help us maximize our fundraising efforts and your donation is tax deductible! This is a sell-out event, and you will not want to miss the opportunity to attend or promote your business to over 1,000 residents of the Villages. For more information contact Renee Baker at (410) 451-5315.

Silent Auction Donation Form

Contact Name:		
Company Name:		
Best Email:		
Best Phone:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Item:		
Description:		
Retail Value:		
Expiration Date (if applicable, request to be valid for one year or later):		
Restrictions: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If yes, please note restrictions:		

Please complete:

- My gift or item is enclosed with a copy of this form. (Please ensure items sent by mail are postmarked no later than January 1st and mailed to the address below.)
- Please contact me to arrange pickup or delivery of my donation.
- I am interested in learning more about volunteer or sponsorship opportunities.

Donor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email this form or mail to: Renee Baker, Event Coordinator at rbaker@cficc.org
 Address: Catholic Charities of Central Florida
 1819 N. Semoran Blvd
 Orlando, FL 32807

We thank you for your support and contribution. Proceeds benefit Catholic Charities Polk County programs. 100% of your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law. Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit entity incorporated in the State of Florida. EIN# 59-1214353. www.cficc.org