



Holy Spirit

OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Easter

21 April 2024

www.HolySpiritOCC.org

727.754.9758

Welcome!

Are you seeking...

To belong to a community of faith
to provide you with something deeper?

A place to be oneself, warts and all?

A place to taste diversity?

A place to weep?

A place to sing?

A place to weep while singing?

A place to feel the depth of life? A place to know God?

We now welcome you home. Christ's peace be with you!



Celebrating Life and Love...

Please, be sure to stop in the parish center
to sign and send your love in our Greeting Cards!

Happy Birthday to: Steve M. 04/25, Sr. Linda 04/29, Fr.
Jacques 05/01, Mary M. 05/15, Lorraine W. 05/22, and George R.
05/27.

Happy Anniversary to: Gordon & Bob 04/23, Ken & Tony
05/10, and Bp. Steven (priesthood) 05/27.

We are progressive people professing an ancient Faith!

When We Gather Next...

Sunday, 28 April 2024, 10:30am

Fifth Sunday of Easter



Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Psalm 22:26-28, 30-32

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

Presider: **Bp. Steven**

Homilist: **Bp. Steven**

Greeters: **Pete S. & Ken S.**

Welcome: **Mthr. Sharon**

Acolyte: **Karen E.**

Intercessions: **Dcn. Jan**

Lectors: (1) **Bro. Walt** (2) **Wayne C.**

Bread Baker: **Bp. Steven**

Ministers of the Cup: **Mthr. Sharon, Dcn. Jan & Fr. Jacques**

Coffee Social Hosts: **Parishioner Last Names S-W**

Thank YOU for your faithful and loving service at the altar of the Lord in community. You bless us!

Lord, Hear Our Prayer!

“Always pray in the Spirit, with all your prayers and petitions.

Pray constantly and attentively for all God’s holy people.” (Ephesians 6:18)

✠Ralph C., R.I.P. 04/12/2024, father of Carter ✠Dennis

Underwood, R.I.P. 02/19/2024, Bp. Gordon’s spouse of 47 years.

•Bro. Tom, cardiac health •For peace in Palestine, Ukraine and throughout our world •For our parish community, our growth and faith •Dcn. Jan, hip surgery healing •Toni S., friend of Mthr. Sharon, liver cancer •Jack, chemotherapy •Ken S., healing •For all who struggle with mental health in our community and families •For those deeply impacted by severe weather •For vocations to ministry and consecrated life from among us. ✠All victims of war. ✠For our deceased clergy and parishioners. ✠For the victims of gun violence.

The Road Ahead Together...

TWELVE STEP MEETINGS at Holy Spirit:

- Sex/Love Anonymous, Thursdays, 12PM, conference room.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Thursdays, 7PM, social hall.

MUSIC MINISTRY PRACTICE

- Thursday evenings, 7-8:30pm, chapel

DIOCESAN HOUSES MEET at HSOCC

- Saturday, May 4th, House of Clergy, 9am-12pm
- Saturday, May 18th, House of Laity, 1pm-4pm

SHARING SUNDAY

- Sunday, May 5th

Our charity and prayer in May is focused on the victims of domestic violence, particularly those served by **CASA Pinellas**. Stay.

ASCENSION of the LORD

- Thursday, May 9th, 7pm

We gather to celebrate the Eucharist for the 40th day after Easter, the Ascension of the Lord into Heaven. Come, share our joy!

BLESSING of MOTHERS

- Sunday, May 12th, Mothers' Day, 10:30am

We pray for, remember and give thanks for our mothers.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- Wednesday, May 15th, 7-9pm, conference room

PARISH FEAST DAY

- Pentecost Sunday, May 19th

Wear your "red" and let us give thanks and celebrate together.

Pastoral Perpenderings

to perpender, verb. *"to weigh carefully in the mind."*

Good morning, dearest Community and Friends!

We hear proclaimed in today's second reading from the first letter of Saint John: "*See what great love the Father has lavished on us...*"

"Lavished"—what a bountiful word. God's love has been generously shared with us, poured out abundantly into our hearts. We have only to be open and receptive in order for this extravagant outpouring of goodness to be ours. Have you ever thought about the profuse nature of God's great love? What a marvelous gift it is.

Some days it may be difficult to believe in this generous gift. It may not seem like we are lavished with God's love when our experiencing our weaknesses or when life seems full of troubles and unwanted problems. Yet this abundant gift of God's love never stops being offered to us.

John tells us that if we accept this lavish gift of God into our lives, it will indeed begin to transform us. Like God, we will become generous with our kindness and acceptance of others. The goodness of God's love will shine through our lives.

Today close your eyes and picture God's love surrounding you and filling you with deep abiding peace and acceptance.

Bountiful God,

what great love you daily lavish upon me.

Thank you for your exceeding generosity.

I will share this abundant love with others
in my thoughts, words and actions.

Mark your calendars and save the date for our **Diocesan “Friendsgiving” Picnic** on Saturday, November 23, 2024 (the Saturday before Thanksgiving) for a wonderful day together with our fellow Old Catholics in Tampa Bay from Gulfport to Spring Hill. We will be gathering at Phillippe County Park – Shelter No. 7 here in Safety Harbor for some great fun, laughter, conversation, and delicious food. Save the date!

Don’t forget to let Michael H. (havener.william@yahoo.com) know if you or someone in your home desires Holy Communion because of being homebound due to illness or convalescence. Our **Home Eucharistic Ministers** are eager to visit and bring you the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God!

Many thanks to everyone who (*your guardian angel knows who you are*) helps to watch over **the care of our parish grounds** with your tender loving care. You continue to make our parish home a beautiful place of welcome, refreshment and prayer to all who visit.

Our **Sharing Sunday** on May 5th will be focused upon our compassionate care for the women, men, children and pets who are assisted by CASA Pinellas (casapinellas.org). The most needed items are: Baby diapers, Baby formula, Baby powder, Baby wipes, Diaper rash cream, and Pacifiers

Thank you for your warm, compassionate and lavish response for those most in need.

With my love and prayer for you, in Christ,

Bp. Steven

A Prayer: The Good Shepherd

God of lost sheep, find us, re-route us.
Quiet now our wandering minds,
O God, that we may hear Your voice.

As we pass places of darkness,
seasons of isolation,
periods of sickness and gloom,
Good Shepherd-God,
you are somehow both
with us
and walking before us.

When we lose our way,
may we experience the thrill,
the joy of being found.
Brace our hearts to trust and follow,
to see, even in troubled times,
that our cup runneth over.
Anticipating the good that is in store for us,
O God, and seeing anew,
the blessings of Your love. *Amen.*



New Spring Offerings... **at the Institute for Old Catholic Studies**

Be sure to check out the latest offerings at the OCC Institute of Old Catholic Studies!

-On Tuesdays, May 7th through May 21st at 7:30pm a new scripture study series will be offered entitled "Scripture and Social Justice" looking at the prophets.

-On Tuesdays, June 4th through 18th a new book study exploring social justice by our OCC Deacon, Karen Fossan.

FMI, be sure to visit and register at: **www.the-iocs.com**. Don't delay as classes begin soon on May 7th and enjoy growing faith and friendship with other Old Catholics.

Volunteering as a Great Vacation

There is a community of people who love to travel with a purpose for whom, travel means learning, sharing, and personal growth - to make it possible for everyone to travel with a purpose and share their adventures.

There are two reputable and vetted networks that celebrate those who are adventurous enough to travel around the world and lend a helping hand. Whether you're on a mission, seeking your calling, planning to teach Yoga, pursuing TEFL, or just looking for an amazing local experience with free accommodation, we applaud the dreamers, doers, and explorers who make up our community.

FMI, visit **HelpStay.com** or **WorldPackers.com** for some pretty amazing opportunities around the world. It may be for you.

This Morning's Sacred Liturgy

Today's Intention: *For Our Families*

Welcome and Announcements	Michael H.
Gathering Song: Morning Has Broken	GC2 748
Kyrie Litany	Fr. Jacques
Opening Prayer	Fr. Jacques
Reading I: <i>Acts of the Apostles 4:7-12</i>	Steve M.
Response: ☩ The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.	Steve M. Psalm 118
Reading II: <i>1 John 3:1-2</i>	Joanne D.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Give the Glory	GC2 733, v. 2
Holy Gospel: <i>John 10:11-18</i>	Fr. Jacques
Homily	Fr. Jacques
Profession of Faith: Nicene Creed (<i>cf. inside back cover hymnal</i>)	
Intercessions: ☩ Shepherd of love, hear us!	Joanne D.
Kiss of Peace	
Preparation of the Gifts: Amazing Grace	GC2 586
Eucharistic Prayer: Mass of Creation	GC2 147, 148A; 149
Lord's Prayer: Our Father	GC2 15
Lamb of God Litany: Mass of Creation	GC2 152
Invitation to Holy Communion	Fr. Jacques
<i>Cup Ministers: Fr. Daniel, David B. & Mthr. Sharon</i>	
Communion Procession: Make Me A Channel	GC2 721
Song of Praise: How Great Thou Art	GC2 496
Prayer after Communion	Bp. Steven
Solemn Blessing and Easter Sending	GC2 154, bttm
Sending Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adoe You	GC2 520
Coffee Social:	<i>Parishioner Last Names M-R</i>