



Welcome! Bienvenidos! St. Theresa Catholic Church

11528 S. US Hwy 301, Belleview, Florida 34420

Phone: (352) 245-2458 Fax: (352) 693-5106

Pastor: **Fr. Tom Connery** Website: www.mystcc.org

St. Theresa is a home that welcomes, a charity that nourishes, a church that evangelizes and a community where friends can meet.

DAILY MASS

Monday—Saturday
8:30 am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 pm
(Spanish) 6:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am

Nov.—Easter 5:00 pm

ROSARY

Mon-Sat 7:50 am
Sunday 6:50 am

ANOINTING (SICK)

Weekend Masses—as needed

CONFESSION

Tuesday: 12:00-12:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00—9:30 am
or call for appointment

HOLY COMMUNION

(sick & homebound)
Call Parish Office

EMERGENCY SICK CALLS FUNERALS

CALL 352-245-2458

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

8am—4 pm M-Th

8 am—Noon Fri

SOUP KITCHEN

11 am—1:00 pm Daily

FOOD PANTRY

9 am—12:00 pm M-F

SOCIAL SERVICES

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 am—1 pm

THRIFT SHOP

MONDAY—SATURDAY

9 am—2:30 pm

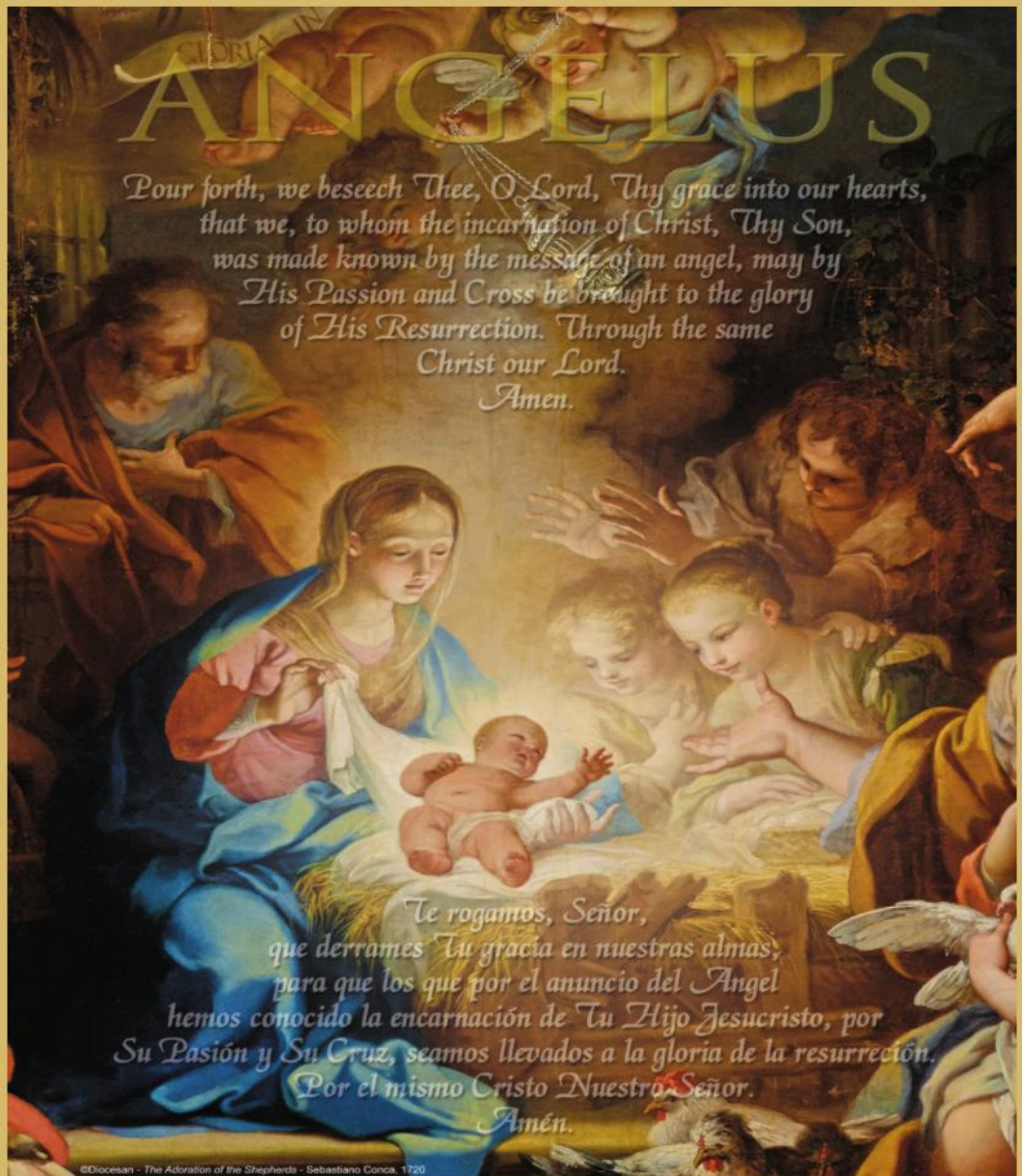
GIFT SHOP

Saturday &
Sunday (after weekend
Masses)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2024



Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Te rogamos, Señor, que derrames Tu gracia en nuestras almas, para que los que por el anuncio del Angel hemos conocido la encarnación de Tu Hijo Jesucristo, por Su Pasión y Su Cruz, seamos llevados a la gloria de la resurrección. Por el mismo Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

It's Worth the Drive (Vale la pena el viaje)

St. Theresa Catholic Church



Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS
 Próximos Eventos

Sat DEC 21	FOR	REQUESTED BY
8:30 am	† Shirley DeCarlo	Ethel Snyder
4:00 pm	St. Theresa Parishioners	
6:00 pm (español)	† Gilma Cardona	Yolanda Garcia
Sun DEC 22		
7:30 am	† Dennis Kirstein	Arlene Kaczmarek
9:00 am	† Donald Schreiner	Ruth Schreiner
11:00 am	† Thomas Marino	Joanne Marino
5:00 pm	Janice Atkinson—Deacon	Barbara Atkinson
Mon DEC 23		
8:30 am	† Anna Storm	Barbara Cetlinski
Tues DEC 24		
8:30 am	† Rita Connery	Jean Beard
3:00 pm	† Walter Lotz	Denise & John Stierle
5:00 pm	† Margaret Albrecht	Theresa & Chris Glenn
7:00 pm (español)	Father Tom Connery—Special Intentions	Hispanic Ministry
9:00 pm	† Walter Lotz	Helen York
Wed DEC 25		
5:45 am	Juan Carlos Ortiz Jr	Angel Colon
10:00 am	† Amy Ottke	Marty & Sheri Wade
Thurs DEC 26		
8:30 am	Rebecca Almond—Special Intentions	Dianne Almond
Fri DEC 27		
8:30 am	† Tony Dorf	Rosalyn Dorf
Sat DEC 28		
8:30 am	† Dave Reiter	Jane Reiter
4:00 pm	† Rosemarie & Robert O'Connor	Marlene Masino
6:00 pm (español)	† Maria Giraldo	Yolanda Garcia
Sun DEC 29		
7:30 am	St. Theresa Parishioners	
9:00 am	† Marcella Jacksa	Judy & Joseph Egizio
11:00 am	† Cameron Fontenot	Renee Strezo
5:00 pm	Family of Mr & Mrs James & Kathleen Estes—Special Intentions	Bellevue Krafters of St. Theresa

Date / Time	Event	Location
Tues. Dec. 31 Masses at 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm Spanish	SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD (Vigil)	Church
Wed. Jan 1 Masses at 8:30 and 10:00 am	SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD	Church
Fri. Jan 3, 2025 6:15 pm	SACRED HEART Novena and Mass	Church
Sun. Jan 5, 2025	NAME TAG / GROCERY SUNDAY	Church
Wed. Jan 8, 2025 2:00 pm	GRIEF SHARE	tbd



Last Call—CONFESSIONS!

Monday, 12/23 5-6 pm, Tuesday, 12/24 12:00 noon. Let's Get ready for Christmas!

CALLING ALL ELVES!



It is that time of year to prepare the church for Christmas!

The big *decorating day* is **Monday, December 23rd** for the inside of the church.

Please call or text **Mary Gahles** at **724-581-7171** if you are available to help with decorating. Thank you.



Tuesday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve—Vigil Masses 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, 7:00 PM (español), 9:00 PM (8:15 pm Choir Concert)
Wednesday Dec. 25	Christmas Day (NOTE: Change) 5:45 AM, 10:00 AM



ADORATION CANDLE

Available for one month from the first to the end of the month. It can be for a deceased person or a special Intention. Suggested donation: **\$30.**

FROM FATHER TOM



Back in 1891, Robert Louis Stevenson, author of such classics as Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Kidnapped, gave an odd gift to the daughter of a friend of his. This friend, Henry Ide, once joked that Christmas was not the happiest day of the year in his household. His fourteen-year-old daughter, Annie, had been born on Christmas, and she always complained that she got cheated out of a separate birthday party. So, Robert Louis Stevenson came up with the idea of giving away his birthday. He drew up a legal document

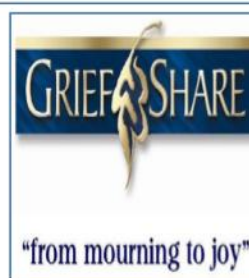
transferring all the "rights and privileges" of his birthday, which fell on November 13th, to Miss Annie H. Ide. From that day forward, Annie celebrated her birthday on November 13th.

Robert Louis Stevenson was not the first to transfer all his "rights and privileges" to someone else. In a sense Jesus became mortal that he might transfer some of his immortality to us. Jesus became human that he might transfer the spark of divinity to us. Jesus became a servant that he might transfer to us the status of sons and daughters. Or as John put it: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

We, as His disciples, transfer our right and privilege of being served. We transfer the right of having things our way. We transfer the right of being in control. We choose with Christ to be a servant. May the Lord bless us this Christmas and may we keep the spirit of giving alive throughout the year.
Merry Christmas!

*Love and Blessings,
Fr. Tom*

P.S. Thank you for the gift of allowing me to be your pastor. I am blessed and grateful!



A **Grief Share** Group will begin again at 2:00 pm on **Wednesday, January 8, 2025** at St. Theresa's.

When a loved one dies, it can feel like you are all alone and that few people understand how painful and isolating this can be. At **Grief Share**, you can find a safe, comforting place where you can talk with others about your grief. You'll find support, direction and guidance on how you can make it through your grief.

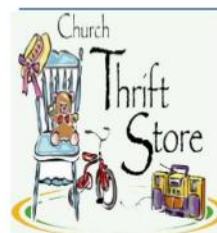
For more information call **Deacon Dan Pallo** at **352-391-9338** or email to deacondan2007@gmail.com. Also visit the Grief Share website at griefshare.org to get more information and register. Come and join us.

3RD SATURDAY CLUB



The **3RD SATURDAY CLUB** will not be meeting during the month of December. The next event will be **January 18th at 9 am**.

The purpose of this club is to beautify the grounds and interior of St. Theresa. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Parish Office at (352) 245-2458.



THRIFT STORE

Our Thrift store is low on **GROCERY BAGS (plastic or paper—any size)**.

Donations would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

DEL PADRE TOM



En 1891, Robert Louis Stevenson, autor de clásicos como Dr. Jekyll y Mr. Hyde y Kidnapped, le hizo un extraño regalo a la hija de un amigo suyo. Este amigo, Henry Ide, bromeó una vez diciendo que la Navidad no era el día más feliz del año en su casa. Su hija Annie, de catorce años, había nacido en Navidad y siempre se quejaba de que le habían robado la posibilidad de celebrar una fiesta de cumpleaños aparte. Entonces, a Robert Louis Stevenson se le ocurrió la idea de regalar su cumpleaños. Redactó un documento legal transfiriendo todos los "derechos y privilegios" de su cumpleaños, que caía el 13 de noviembre, a la señorita Annie H. Ide. A partir de ese día, Annie celebró su cumpleaños el 13 de noviembre.

Robert Louis Stevenson no fue el primero en transferir todos sus "derechos y privilegios" a otra persona. En cierto sentido, Jesús se hizo mortal para poder transferirnos parte de su inmortalidad. Jesús se hizo humano para poder transferirnos la chispa de la divinidad. Jesús se hizo siervo para poder transferirnos el estatus de hijos e hijas. O como dijo Juan: "El Verbo se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros. Hemos visto su gloria, la gloria del Único, que vino del Padre, lleno de gracia y de verdad".

Nosotros, como Sus discípulos, transferimos nuestro derecho y privilegio de ser servidos. Transferimos el derecho de hacer las cosas a nuestra manera. Transferimos el derecho a tener el control. Elegimos con Cristo ser un siervo. Que el Señor nos bendiga esta Navidad y que mantengamos vivo el espíritu de generosidad durante todo el año.
¡Feliz Navidad!

*Amor y bendiciones
Padre Tom*

PD Gracias por el regalo de permitirme ser su pastor. ¡Estoy bendecida y agradecida!



A PRAYER FROM OUR PRO LIFE CORNER

*Dearest St. Joseph,
At the word of an angel, you lovingly took
Mary into your home.*

*As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family
on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your
own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from
your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.*

*We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never
hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you.*

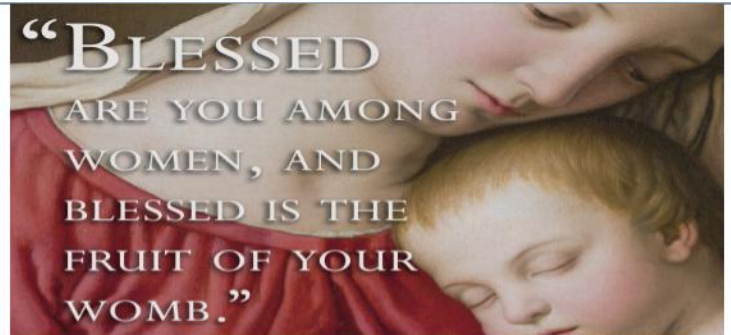
*May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish,
and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.*

*Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and
defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable
or threatened.*

*Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.
Amen.*

*Copyright © 2021, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,
Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.*

If you have any questions or would like to join our
committee, please call me - **Pat Pratt (386) 566- 8654** .



GROCERY SUNDAY - JANUARY 5, 2025



Please consider helping our St. Theresa parish provide food for our guests during the holidays. We welcome grocery store **Gift Cards** from **Winn Dixie & Publix** in any amount. Donations of food items (e.g. canned vegetables, etc.) are also greatly appreciated! Bring them to drop off at Mass.

NAME TAG SUNDAY - JANUARY 5, 2025



Get to know your fellow parishioners! We will have **Name Tag Sunday** every 1st weekend of each month. If you have a name tag from any group you belong to, please wear it.

My Take



This time of year, reminds me of the wonderful times I spent as part of a large family. As you can imagine, with nine children, Christmas Day was always hectic. Although I don't remember the taking of the picture used here, I was the baby in my dad's arms, it reminds me of the many wonderful Christmas traditions we shared.

In our family, we did not have a tradition of lighting candles for Advent, so I didn't quite understand the meaning of it. Over the years, as I got a chance to read more about Advent and its meaning, I found the symbols associated with Advent both fascinating and educational.

- * Advent Wreath—The branches and shape, with no beginning or end, reflect the love Jesus has for us. As each candle is lit, it brings more light into the darkness. A white candle (Christ candle) can be added on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to show Jesus is with us.
- * The Candle of Hope (the Prophecy Candle)—The purple symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. We look forward to Jesus' coming with hope.
- * The Candle of Peace (the Bethlehem Candle)—The second purple candle is lit to remind us to reflect on ourselves and work on becoming a better version of ourselves in preparation of Jesus' coming.
- * The Candle of Joy (the Shepherd's Candle)—This candle is pink, and we rejoice of the near arrive of Jesus on Christmas Day. This particular Sunday is also known as the Gaudete Sunday as we share the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus.
- * The Candle of Love (the Angel's Candle)—This candle is purple. We rejoice in God's endless love for us. This is apparent with the birth of Jesus, his son. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy that is Jesus on Christmas.

After moving to Florida in 2015, Christmas became different for me with no family in state, but since coming to St Theresa in 2018, I get to spend Christmas Eve with those I consider family here at St. Theresa. And what could be better than that? May you all have a wonderful Christmas!

Marcia Wheatley, Operations Manager

Fourth Sunday of Advent - **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

There is a Christmas song that says of Bethlehem: "Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light." Though today it has many modern homes and buildings, you can still see that it is part of "the hill country...of Judah." (Lk 1:39) It is not too far from En Kerem, where John the Baptist was born, and apparently where today's Gospel takes place.

We see in the Gospel reading today how Elizabeth and her unborn child rejoiced at the news of Jesus' coming birth. The story implies that Mary went to see Elizabeth as soon as the angel told her about Jesus. I would think that talking about it made this miracle more real.

Jesus is the "everlasting Light" mentioned in the song. That light shines today, not just in Bethlehem, but everywhere that his followers bring it. When we console someone who is mourning, that light shines. When we forgive someone who hurt us, the light is burning. When we teach a child how to pray, it shines even brighter.

Our dark streets need the everlasting Light today as much as they did 2000 years ago. Today we remember how Mary and Elizabeth shared their faith in God. They did so much like we do today. Jesus, who seems to be invisible today, is seen in the shared faith of those who bring him into the world by their words and actions. *Tom Schmidt*—Copyright © Diocesan Publications



THE SANCTUARY LAMP IS LIT FOR

FLORENCE MOONEY

December 21—27, 2024

From: *Dave & Georgiann Matthews*



SOCIAL SERVICES— During this Holiday Season, our **Social Service Benevolence Ministry** would greatly appreciate any donations to assist our less fortunate neighbors with rent, utility and other household bills. Please use the envelopes located in the church pews.

Mi opinión



Esta época del año me recuerda los maravillosos momentos que pasé como parte de una familia numerosa. Como puedes imaginar, con nueve hijos, el día de Navidad siempre era agitado. Aunque no recuerdo la toma de la fotografía que se usa aquí, yo era el bebé en los brazos de mi padre, me recuerda las muchas tradiciones navideñas maravillosas que compartimos.

En nuestra familia, no teníamos una tradición de encender velas para el Adviento, por lo que no entendía muy bien su significado. Con el paso de los años, cuando tuve la oportunidad de leer más sobre el Adviento y su significado, encontré los simbolismos asociados con el Adviento fascinantes y educativos.

- * Corona de Adviento: las ramas y la forma, sin principio ni fin, reflejan el amor que Jesús tiene por nosotros. A medida que se enciende cada vela, trae más luz a la oscuridad. Se puede agregar una vela blanca (vela de Cristo) en la víspera de Navidad o el día de Navidad para mostrar que Jesús está con nosotros.
- * La vela de la esperanza (la vela de la profecía): el morado simboliza la penitencia, la preparación y el sacrificio. Esperamos con esperanza la venida de Jesús.
- * La vela de la paz (la vela de Belén): la segunda vela morada se enciende para recordarnos que reflexionemos sobre nosotros mismos y trabajemos para convertirnos en una mejor versión de nosotros mismos en preparación para la venida de Jesús.
- * La vela de la alegría (la vela del pastor): esta vela es rosa y nos regocijamos por la llegada cercana de Jesús el día de Navidad. Este domingo en particular también se conoce como el domingo de Gaudete, ya que compartimos la alegría que sintieron los pastores en el nacimiento de Jesús.
- * La vela del amor (la vela del ángel): esta vela es morada. Nos regocijamos en el amor infinito de Dios por nosotros. Esto es evidente con el nacimiento de Jesús, su hijo. Esta es la última semana para preparar nuestros corazones para la alegría que es Jesús en Navidad.

Después de mudarme a Florida en 2015, la Navidad se volvió diferente para mí sin familia con quien compartir la tradición, pero desde que llegué a Santa Teresa en 2018, puedo pasar la Nochebuena con aquellos a quienes considero familia aquí en Santa Teresa. ¿Y qué podría ser mejor que eso? ¡Que tengáis todos una maravillosa Navidad!

Marcia Wheatley, Gerente de Operaciones



RECRUITING ALTAR SERVERS !!

We are recruiting new altar servers (**Children and Adults**)! If interested in serving, please call the Parish Office (352) 245-2458.



If you or someone you know need prayer, you can call the St Theresa Prayer Hotline 24 hours a day to have a member of the Prayer Team pray with you. The number is (352) 496-1569.



on a regular basis, you may call the Parish Office to stop the envelopes you receive in the mail.

DONATIONS, using your credit or debit card, may be made online on our web site at www.mystcc.org. If you are using online giving

ST. THERESA ADORATION CHAPEL

If you would you like to deepen your prayer life and personal relationship with Jesus Christ, please consider adoring one hour a week in St. Theresa's Adoration Chapel.

We have a critical need for adorers for the following: **Tuesday: 6 pm.** **Saturday: 8 & 9 pm.** **Sunday: 7 am and 7 pm.** In addition, if you would like to be an adorer or substitute, please contact **Nancy High 941-518-2194.**

Merry Christmas! Feliz Navidad!



Fourth Sunday Of Advent

December 22, 2024



"Father God, we lift up all those who are facing illness today, we ask that you would bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. In Jesus' name, Amen!" Call the Office to make changes.



Week Ending December 15, 2024

Offertory:	\$16,534.12
Project Growth:	\$ 2,547.50
Soup Kitchen:	\$ 5,857.56
Social Services:	\$ 6,395.50
Thrift Store:	\$ 8,849.75

Roger Anderson	Rosemary Gurick	Timothy Ross
Nancy Bauer	Sammy Harris	Francine Sothen
Jesse Benoit	Robert & Clair LaDow	Lori Spurlock
Denise Billeter	Shirley Laurie	Frances Stonewell Family
Peggy Bulson	Joanne Metzger	Eleanor Sullivan
Lilly Chimenti	Genevieve Nix	Pam & Paul Sullivan
Lucy DeLuca	Jane Oelstrom	Sandra Sutter
Gene Dever	Gary Pearson	Joan Ward
Mike Devost	Don Pellegrino	John Zaborny
Eric Duchesne	Jeremy Perkins	
Kelly Forti	Carolyn Roberto	
Julie Grosner		



Congratulations to the Winners of the Roses from Heaven Gift Store Raffle

1st prize: Julie Hardy (Lighted Nativity in glass enclosed glitter lantern)

2nd prize: Marge Maitski (Magi King Nutcracker)

3rd prize: Johanna O'Brien (Engraved "This House Believes" stone block)

4th prize: Mary Ellen Yamamoto (*Jesus is the Reason for the Season* plaque)



*Reach out to others !
Ongoing prayer life !
Sunday Worship !
Engage in a Small Group !*



BELLEVIEW FLORIDA

RICCARDO'S
 RESTAURANT & CATERING
 ENTRÉES • PIZZA • FULL MENU
 352.693.5828 • riccardosrestaurant.net

REALTY EXECUTIVES
 In The Villages

Terri Edwards
 Realtor
 tredw13@aol.com • 267-918-4125

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.
 Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/4391
 ...or scan
 ✂DISCOVERMASS

EWTN.COM/RADIO

EWTN | Global Catholic Radio
TUNE IN

ThankYouForYourPriesthood.com
#ThankYouForYourPriesthood

catholicmatch®
 Florida

CatholicMatch.com/goFL

★



CALA
REFRIGERATION
& AIR

352-572-5246

Parishioners
Rich LaCorte
CAC1815465
Anthony LaCorte
CAC1822677

★

GREGG SMITH AUTOMOTIVE 

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- HONDA
- TOYOTA
- HYUNDAI
- SUBARU
- KIA

✓ AC/Heating Systems
 ✓ Brakes & Suspension
 ✓ Maintenance & Repairs
 ✓ Oil & Filter Changes
 ✓ Tire Services

CALL US TODAY!
352-347-2222
www.greggsmithautomotive.com

6202 SE ABSHIER BLVD
 BELLEVUE, FL 34420


Your Dealer Alternative



AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE, INC.
 Ford, Lincoln and Mercury Specialists

Since 1996
352-245-6334
 6105 SE Hames Rd. (C-25), Belleview

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 Golf Outing Fundraiser



Contact Larry at
352-751-4301

The Golf Outing is
 October 11th, 2025, to play,
 sponsor by 10/3/25

ADVERTISE HERE

Promote your Business
 AND Support your Parish.

Give us a call! **800-292-9111**

★



- ✓ Monthly Lawn Maintenance
- ✓ Hedge & Shrub Trimming
- ✓ Landscape Maintenance
- ✓ Gutter Cleaning
- ✓ Mulch & Plant Installation
- ✓ One Time Projects

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
352-670-9401

PLANS AS LOW AS
\$75
 PER MONTH

In Loving Memory of

SIMEON LEE



MILLHORN
 ELDER LAW PLANNING GROUP

High Quality Comprehensive Legal Services
 Serving all of Central Florida for over 23 years

Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney
 Special Needs Planning • Medicaid Planning
 Veterans Aid & Attendance

9481 N. US Hwy 301, Wildwood, FL 34785
 3251 Wedgewood Lane, The Villages, FL 32162

352-753-9333
www.MillhornLaw.com



Questions and Consultations
 are ALWAYS Complimentary

★

PURONICS®
 LCRG Enterprises/Glacier Water Inc.

Sales - Service - Installation



LET US FIX YOUR BAD WATER

352-245-5447

The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible.
Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week. Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe

