



Our Regular Events

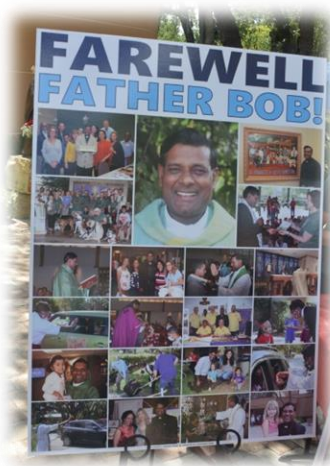
- ◆ *Weekly Eucharistic Adoration*
7PM to 8PM Tuesday evenings
- ◆ *Monthly Meeting – Second Saturday at*
9AM – St. Michael Building @St. Paul's

Upcoming Calendar of Events

- ◆ October 2 – Blessing of the Animals –
9am – Santo Niño Shrine
- ◆ October 4 – St. Francis of Assisi Mass –
Rosary 7PM, Mass 7:30PM

Farewell Fr. Bob, but not Goodbye!

May 23rd, we celebrated Fr. Bob's seven years as Parochial Vicar at St. Paul Catholic Church. It is an end to a remarkable era of his contributions to our St. Paul community, not to forget the founding of our St. Francis of Assisi Ministry.



Along with parishioners Tina Bubb and Kevin Bischoff, the initial intent of the ministry was to host a Mass for those who had lost a pet. The first Mass regarding this intention was held on Friday, July 27, 2018.

After the Mass, many parishioners began to seek out support for their pets who were ill or recently deceased. After a few weeks of planning, the first ministry meeting was organized on September 1, 2018, with 12 members present. One of the initial goals of the ministry was to solicit prayer requests for pets and their owners. Almost immediately, prayer requests began to pour in for those seeking comfort from the recent loss of a pet and from those who were sick.

On July 1st, Fr. Bob moved to Holy Family Church in St. Petersburg. Although he is no longer with us at St. Paul's, we are grateful he is still close by so that he may

participate in outreach activities, such as the annual Prayer Service in the Park, Pet Photos with Santa, and service-related events.

On July 22nd, members who could make it participated in a farewell dinner at Michael's Grill in Carrollwood where we presented Fr. Bob with a beautifully hand-made and hand-stitched stole. Made from brocade fabric and embroidered St Francis of Assisi.

The Making of the St Francis Stole for Fr. Bob

The Core Group of the Ministry met to gather ideas for a farewell gift to be given to Fr Bob. With all the ideas thrown out and the sites viewed for additional ideas, a decision could not be made, at which time a suggestion was made to make the stole.



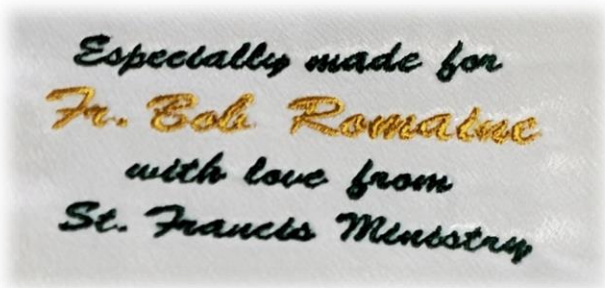
The face of the stole is of a Brocade fabric and the back/lining is of Crepe-back Satin.

A picture of St Francis was taken from an actual stole, emailed to Germany for digitizing and returned, formatted for machine embroidery. The embroidery was done by Lynette Bohanan, a sacristan of St Paul's.

The appliquéés on the front and on the rear V-neck, are Bullion Gold Jeweled Crosses. Each are hand embroidered featuring gold bullion metallic thread and pearl/pearl metallic thread details with a jeweled center. Goldwork on a velvet ground.



An inscription was embroidered on the inner side of the stole that reads:



It was presented to Fr. Bob at a dinner in his honor on July 22, 2021. We love you Fr. Bob! We will miss you at St. Paul's. The parishioners at Holy Family are lucky to have you. Many blessings for from your St. Francis of Assisi Ministry family.



Pet Owner's Mass of Remembrance

St. Francis of Assisi Ministry, Pet Owner's Mass of Remembrance was held at St. Paul Catholic on July 9, 2021. This was the St. Francis of Assisi's fourth Mass in

memory of all our pets who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge this past year. Every year we select an animal shelter or rescue organization for the offertory collection. This year we selected Elizabeth's Animal Rescue and Sanctuary, also known as E.A.R.S. Carey King-Agin (left) attended and on behalf of E.A.R.S., expressed her gratitude for being chosen as this year's recipient..



E.A.R.S. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to rescuing dogs from central Florida. We are not just a shelter and sanctuary for animals, but also for the people that love and care for them as well. We pride ourselves on the fact that all our animals are happy and well taken care of until they find their new home. Our volunteers open their hearts and their homes to our animals in need, as long as that may be.

For more information: <https://earsrescue.org/>



In memory of: (from top left to bottom right) Angel, Dexter, Paul, Penny, Becca Dragon and Sadie.

Prayer Service in the Park

The annual Prayer Service in the Park was held May 8, 2021, at the Carrollwood Village Park in Tampa, FL. Leading our service were Fr. Bob and Fr. George. We celebrated our animals and the love and compassion that we share with them. We welcomed everyone who stopped by. After the service there was time to socialize while we were treated to a few songs serenaded by Fr. Victor.

This annual event by the St. Francis of Assisi Ministry is typically scheduled for May.



What to do if you Found Kittens

By Maria Matlack – Humane Society Tampa Bay

1. Don't be a Kit-Napper
 - Moms offer the best chance for kittens' survival
 - Mom is probably out hunting or just hiding from you
 - Wait 4 – 8 hours to see if she returns
2. Did Mom Come Back?

Yes –

 - Let mom care for them until they are about 6 – 8 weeks old and weaned
 - Leave food out for mom to help her out
 - Once weaned, get mom and kittens spayed/neutered through the Human Society Tampa Bay TNVR program

No -

 - If mom hasn't returned after 8 hours, consider becoming a foster parent! During kitten season, shelters are overrun and overcrowded. Fostering saves lives!
 - Humane Society Tampa Bay will supply everything you need to care for them in your home.
3. When kittens are old enough
 - When kittens reach 6 – 8 weeks old they can be spayed/neutered at Humane Society Tampa Bay
 - Contact our shelter to see if we can put them in our adoption program or be on the lookout for friends, family and colleagues looking for a new furry family member.

How to prepare your pets for a hurricane!

Animal Medical Center

Hurricanes are a scary threat to anyone who lives near the coast. Follow these tips before and during a storm to keep your pets safe.

1. Before the storm, find out which evacuation shelters allow pets.
 - Call your local and county officials and find out where you can take your pet before the storm hits.
2. Use a pet carrier.
 - Carriers are required at many pet shelters and can serve as a safe space for a nervous pet. Be sure to label the carrier with your pet's name, breed, sex, date of birth, your current address and contact numbers, and any important medical information.
4. Make sure you have at least two weeks of your pet's medications on hand.
 - In the event that a hurricane strikes, make sure you have 14 days of prescription medications, as well as heartworm and flea preventives. Pack them in a bag with your pet's essentials and write down your current administration schedule in case you have to leave your pet at medical center. Apply heartworm and flea preventive before placing your pet in an evacuation facility - even if it's not quite time for an application. Your pet may be exposed to fleas and mosquitoes and the extra protection will only help.
5. Carry a week's worth of food and water
 - If possible, divide your pet's meals into individual storage bins or bags. This will help ensure you bring enough food and allow you to assist others who may have to care for your pet during an evacuation. Carry bottled water (24 ounces per day for a 20-pound dog and 8 ounces a day for a 10-pound cat) and bowls. Many shelters will not have adequate food and water on hand for pets.
6. Bring at least two slip leashes.
 - Always carry the simple slip-type webbing or nylon leashes with you. A frightened dog can slip out of a collar, but a slip leash can hold it securely. A slip leash can also be used to restrain a cat in a pinch. Carry an extra leash in your pocket in case someone else needs it or you lose yours.



Top Reasons to adopt a Pet

The Humane Society of the United States

Thinking of adding a pet to your family? Here are 10 reasons to adopt your new best friend.

1. Because you'll save a life.
 - Each year, it's estimated that more than one million adoptable dogs and cats are euthanized in the United States, simply because too many pets come into shelters and too few people consider adoption when looking for a pet.
 - The number of euthanized animals could be reduced dramatically if more people adopted pets instead of buying them. When you adopt, you save a loving animal by making them part of your family and open up shelter space for another animal who might desperately need it.
2. Because you'll get a great animal.
 - Animal shelters and rescue groups are brimming with happy, healthy pets just waiting for someone to take them home. Most shelter pets wound up there because of a human problem like a move or a divorce, not because the animals did anything wrong. Many are already house-trained and used to living with families.
3. Because it'll cost you less
 - Usually when you adopt a pet, the cost of spay/neuter, first vaccinations (and sometimes even microchipping!) is included in the adoption price, which can save you some of the up-front costs of adding a new member to your family. Depending on the animal, you may also save on housebreaking and training expenses.
4. Because it's one way to fight puppy mills.
 - If you buy a dog from a pet store, online seller or flea market, you're almost certainly getting a dog from a puppy mill.
 - Puppy mills are factory-style breeding facilities that put profit above the welfare of dogs. Animals from puppy mills are housed in shockingly poor conditions with improper medical care, and often very sick and behaviorally troubled as a result. The moms of these puppies are kept in cages to be bred over and over for years, without human companionship and with little hope of ever joining a family. And after they're no longer profitable, breeding dogs are dimply discarded – either killed, abandoned, or sold at auction.
5. Because your home will thank you.
 - These puppy mills continue to stay in business through deceptive tactics – their customers are unsuspecting consumers who shop in pet stores, over the Internet or through classified ads. Puppy mills will continue to operate until people stop supporting them. By adopting a pet, you can be certain you aren't giving them a dime.
5. Because your home will thank you.
 - Many of the pets from shelters and rescues are already house-trained, which means you're not only saving a pet's life, but you may also be saving your rug. Adopting a mature pet not only gives older animals a second chance, but it also often means introducing them to your family will be much easier.
6. Because all pets are good for your health, but adoptees offer an extra boost.
 - Not only do animals give you unconditional love, but they have been shown to be psychologically, emotionally, and physically beneficial to their companions. Caring for a pet can provide a sense of purpose and fulfillment and lessen feelings of loneliness. And when you adopt, you can also feel proud about helping an animal in need.
7. Because adoption helps more than just one animal.
 - Overburdened shelters take in millions of strays, abused and lost animals every year, and by adopting an animal, you're making room for others. Not only are you giving more animals a second chance, but the cost of your adoption goes directly towards helping those shelters better care for the animals they take in.

Our ministry was born from the love of God's creations. We need your prayerful support to provide comfort and aid to the sick, neglected, dying and in-need pets of our community.

St. Francis of Assisi Ministry
St. Paul Catholic Church

To contact the St. Francis of Assisi Ministry, please send an email to:

St-francis-ministry@stpaulchurch.com