

## Fr. Tamil's Continued Ministry Remains at St. Paul's

Rather than being transferred, Fr. Tamil will continue to serve the community at St. Paul's in the role of parochial vicar. His ongoing presence is welcomed by parishioners, who value his dedication, compassion, and spiritual leadership.



For some time, Fr. Tamil had been ministering without a personal chalice, relying on shared vessels for the celebration of Mass. In recognition of his commitment and as a gesture of support, the St. Francis Ministry has presented him with a chalice of his own. This gift is both practical and deeply symbolic, representing the unity and generosity of the faith community.



To mark the occasion, Fr. Morley bestowed a special blessing over the new chalice. This sacred act underscores the significance of the gift, dedicating it for use in the holy mysteries and elevating its role in the spiritual life of the parish.

## Our Regular Events

- ♦ *Weekly Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction*  
8 PM Monday evenings – St. Paul's Chapel
- ♦ *Monthly Meeting – Second Saturday at 9:15 AM – St. Michael Building @St. Paul's*

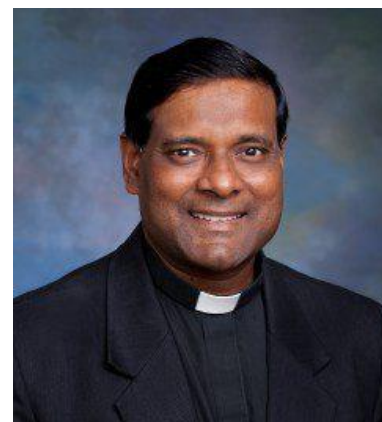
## Upcoming Calendar of Events

- ♦ *St. Francis Feast Day Mass Oct. 3, 12:15, St Paul's*
- ♦ *Blessing of the Animals, Oct. 4, 9 AM, Santo Nino Shrine, St. Paul's*
- ♦ *Pet Photos with Santa, Dec. 13, 10 AM to 1 PM, Carrollwood Village Park, Shelter 1*



## The Installation of Rev. Robert (Fr. Bob) Romaine at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Dade City

On Sunday, September 21, 2025, an atmosphere of reverence, gratitude, and hope filled



Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dade City, Florida. Parishioners gathered, friends reunited, and clergy from the Diocese of St. Petersburg assembled to witness a momentous occasion: the installation of Rev. Robert (Fr. Bob) Romaine as the official pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, presided over by Bishop Gregory Parkes. After serving a year as Parochial Administrator, Fr. Bob transitioned into this new role with the blessings of both his congregation and the bishop, marking a new chapter in the spiritual journey of the parish.

Fr. Bob's journey to Sacred Heart Catholic Church is marked by years of unwavering dedication to ministry and pastoral care. Before he arrived in Dade City, he served as parochial vicar at Holy Family Catholic Church in St. Petersburg, and before that, served at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Tampa. During this time at St. Paul's, he founded the St. Francis Ministry and became the first chaplain of the ministry. In this

capacity, he demonstrated a rare combination of compassion, innovation, and spiritual leadership that has left a lasting impact on the communities he served.

His appointment as Parochial Administrator at Sacred Heart one year ago was met with anticipation and optimism. During this period, Fr. Bob became a familiar and beloved presence among parishioners. He led Mass with warmth and sincerity, guided faith formation programs, and championed outreach efforts to the wider Dade City community. We are blessed to call him Pastor! Congratulations, Fr. Bob!

## Pilgrimage to Espiritu Santo

The Jubilee Year has provided us with opportunities to experience other parishes and to receive special indulgences. The pilgrimage to Espiritu Santo was a meaningful experience, combining spiritual reflection, tradition, and a sense of togetherness. We explored the campus, with its beautiful landscape, and participated in Mass led by Fr. Len, former pastor of St. Paul's.



Espiritu Santo, named for the "Holy Spirit," is rich in history and was founded as a place for worship, education, and growth. It began with the arrival of the Spanish and the Catholic Faith to Florida's West coast in 1539 by Hernando Desoto. In the search for wealth and the mythical "Fountain of Youth", Desoto landed on the shores of what is now known as Tampa Bay on Pentecost Sunday, where he discovered five mineral springs near a large Tocobaga Indian Village. He named the body of water Bahia Espiritu Santo (Bay of the Holy Spirit) in honor of the holy day and because the inhabitants of the nearby Indian village believed the springs had healing properties, a legend that persists today. Through the years, it has expanded and

adapted, shaped by devoted individuals and the changing needs of its community.

## Our Lady of Good Health Novena August 30 – September 7, 2025

During the annual Novena to Our Lady of Good Health, the St. Francis Ministry participated on the sixth day of the novena by guiding the congregation in praying the Holy Rosary. This day stands out as a powerful reminder of the strength of community and shared faith within the tradition of Marian devotion.



The nine-day novena is a cherished Catholic tradition, particularly among communities associated with Our Lady of Vailankanni. Each day focuses on different themes and intentions, and the sixth day becomes especially meaningful as the St. Francis Ministry leads the faithful in meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary, encouraging everyone to unite their prayers and intentions.

## Outreach - The Lotus Coalition Drop-In Center Grand Opening

When the ribbon was cut at the Lotus Coalition Drop-In Center's grand opening, it marked the beginning of a vital new chapter for the Tampa community. Located at 2208 E Columbus Dr., Tampa, FL 33605, the center has quickly





established itself as a place of refuge, dignity, and practical assistance for those in need.

Since opening its doors, the Lotus Coalition Drop-In Center has consistently welcomed an average of 20 to 30 individuals each day. These “drop-ins” reflect the ongoing need for accessible, low-barrier support services in the Tampa area.

The center operates from Monday – Friday, 10 AM to 3 PM. Donations of new or gently used clothing, unopened toiletries, or shelf-stable food items may be dropped off during business hours. For more information, contact the center at 813-252-7009.

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **June Birthdays**

9 – Carol Breland  
15 – Jose Puente (aka Santa Claus)  
16 – Jackie Dremsek  
16 – Valerie Merimee  
20 – Mindy Ramos

### **June Anniversaries**

26 – Peg & Pat Huey

### **July Birthdays**

6 – Laura Gregory  
31 – Fr. Tim Williford

### **July Anniversaries**

4 – Valerie & Chris Merimee  
17 – Fr. George Gyasi - Ordination  
19 – Alex & Becca Petrilak

### **August Birthdays**

20 – Mike Hayes  
23 - Fr. Craig Morley  
28 - Fr. George Gyasi

### **September Anniversaries**

5 – Fr. Eva Nnamene - Ordination  
11 – Dcn. Chuck & Maria Glass  
14 – Fr. Francisco Hernandez - Ordination

### **October Birthdays**

27 – Pat Pedota

### **October Anniversaries**

11 – Julie & Randy Molten  
20 – Linda & Mark Tarrago

### **November Birthdays**

13 – Joanne Wagner Castillo  
18 – Roxanne Welch  
19 – Peg Huey  
23 – Val Tridico

### **November Anniversaries**

8 – Laura & John Gregory

### **December Birthdays**

24 – Jim Dremsek

## **St. Francis and the Taming of the Wolf**

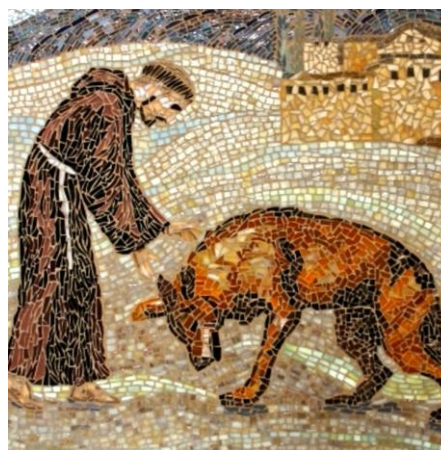
Murray Bodo, OFM

FranciscanMedia

October 2017, St. Anthony Messenger

The story of how St. Francis of Assisi tamed the Wolf of Gubbio is one of the great legends linked with the life of the saint. I have never been too worried as to whether the story was historically true or not. I am more interested in seeing how the story fits into the pattern of biblical themes and of God’s plans for creation. In this well-known legend, St. Francis goes to the Italian town of Gubbio, where a fierce wolf had been terrorizing the village and even killing some of the people, including children.

During his visit to Gubbio, Francis goes out to meet the wolf. You can find an account of this event in *The Little Flowers of Saint Francis*, a 14th-century collection of stories about Francis and his companions. According to the story, when the wolf sees St. Francis, he comes charging at the saint with his mouth open, ready to attack.



St. Francis immediately makes the sign of the cross over him and says, “Come here, Brother Wolf. I command you on behalf of Christ that you do no harm to me or to anyone.” As soon as St. Francis did this, notes *The Little Flowers*, “the fearsome wolf

closed his mouth and stopped running; and once the command was given, it came meekly as a lamb, and threw itself at the feet of St. Francis.”

Then St. Francis scolds Brother Wolf for destroying and killing the creatures of God. “The whole town is complaining about you,” Francis tells the wolf gently. “But I want to make peace between you and the people. And so I promise that I will have food given to you regularly, Brother Wolf, by the people of this town so that you will no longer suffer hunger. And I want you, Brother Wolf, to promise that you will never harm any human person or animal.” The wolf showed agreement by simply bowing his head.

And so Francis asks the people of the town if they will promise to provide food for wolf regularly. They all say they will. Finally, St. Francis asks the wolf to give a guarantee in front of all of the people that he will no longer inflict harm upon the people of Gubbio or its animals.

“Then the wolf, lifting his right paw, placed it in the hand of St. Francis. Because of this action...there was such rejoicing and wonder among all the people...that they all began to cry to heaven, praising and blessing God who sent Francis to them who, through his merits, had freed them from the jaws of the cruel beast.”

“Afterwards, that same wolf lived in Gubbio for two years, and he tamely entered the houses, going from door to door, without doing any harm to anyone and without any being done to him; and he was kindly fed by the people....Finally after two years Brother Wolf died of old age, at which the citizens grieved very much.”

The “peaceable kingdom” is an expression of the messianic era of peace, foreseen by the prophet Isaiah in this famous passage: “Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them” (11:6).

In part, what the story of Francis and the wolf reveals to us is that St. Francis—as a follower of Christ, the Messiah foretold by Isaiah—is helping to bring about the same peace and reconciliation in this world. This peace, harmony and reconciliation is not

only meant to exist between God and humans, but also between God and the whole family of creation! We, too, can be instruments of peace.

## **Pope Leo’s September prayer intention: For our relationship with creation**

Vatican News

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

*Lord, You love everything You have created, and nothing exists outside the mystery of Your tenderness. Every creature, no matter how small, is the fruit of Your love and has a place in this world.*

*Even the simplest or shortest life is surrounded by Your care. Like St. Francis of Assisi, today we too want to say: “Praised be You, my Lord!”*

*Through the beauty of creation, You reveal Yourself as a source of goodness. We ask You: open our eyes to recognize You, learning from the mystery of Your closeness to all creation that the world is infinitely more than a problem to solve. It is a mystery to be contemplated with gratitude and hope.*

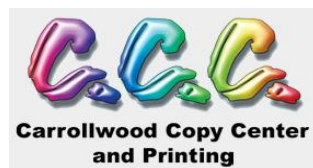
*Help us to discover Your presence in all creation, so that, in fully recognizing it, we may feel and know ourselves to be responsible for this common home where You invite us to care for, respect, and protect life in all its forms and possibilities.*

*Praised be You, Lord!*

*Amen.*



For more information about the St. Francis Ministry at St. Paul’s Catholic Church, check out our web page at <https://stpaulchurch.com/ministry/st-francis-of-assisi/>.



Printing by Carrollwood Copy Center  
11406 N. Dale Mabry Hwy. #205  
Tampa, FL 33618