



SAINT TIMOTHY
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Foundations of Life Reaches Out to Local Women and Families

When a woman is facing an unexpected pregnancy, it's important for us to reach out to her and her family with compassion and hope. Right here in Tampa, Catholic Charities' Foundations of Life Center — one of four centers in the Tampa Bay area — provides a pregnancy center, adoption services and post-abortive healing services all in one place.

“Foundations are strong tenets upon which to build — what better foundation than the sanctity and dignity of all human life?” says Director of Pregnancy and Adoption Services Rose Llauget, explaining how the center got its name. “We want to educate and empower women with choices of life. Pregnancy in itself is a huge change, and if you just tell someone not to abort the baby, they are still going to be in the same position in their life. We need to provide these kinds of wrap-around services that will help not just women who are abortion-minded or vulnerable, but all women and families who need our services. Our goal is to support women and their choices in parenting or adoption.”



*Rose Llauget, Director of
Pregnancy and Adoption Services*

The Tampa Bay area's four Foundations of Life Centers are located in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Spring Hill and Dade City, and serve over 2,600 clients with almost 7,000 visits per year. Foundations of Life Center Tampa recently relocated from Bush Blvd. to a remodeled facility on Armenia Ave. The center is open on Monday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and from 5 to 7 p.m. by appointment only; Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The center is staffed by both

continued on page 2

May 2018

In this Issue

- 3 The Month of Mary: A Time for Celebration and Joy
- 4 Connecting Face-to-Face With Christ: The Good Samaritan Project
- 6 The Blessings of the Catholic Mass
- 7 Offering Support to Those in Need
Outreach to Our Veterans

17512 Lakeshore Rd.
Lutz, FL 33558
www.sainttims.org



Foundations of Life Reaches Out to Local Women and Families *continued from front cover*

“We want to educate and empower women with choices of life. Pregnancy in itself is a huge change, and if you just tell someone not to abort the baby, they are still going to be in the same position in their life. We need to provide these kinds of wraparound services who will help not just women who are abortion-minded or vulnerable, but all women and families who need our services. Our goal is to support women and their choices in parenting or adoption.” — Rose Llauget

employees and volunteers who undergo an in-depth training process.

“I have three adoption workers, and 25 women volunteers working with us at the pregnancy center,” Rose says. “We couldn’t do what we do without our volunteers. The words we use are very important, especially when talking about pregnancy and adoption. We equip them with the tools that they need so that they can feel confident and comfortable in their work.”

In addition to adoption services and post-abortive healing services — through Project Rachel — Foundations of Life pregnancy services provide education and support to pregnant women. Clients are seen every three to four weeks, up until her child is 1 year old. In the last fiscal year, Foundations of Life gave 1,101 pregnancy tests and 1,144 ultrasounds. Through the center’s Earn While You Learn program, almost 90,000 baby and maternity supplies were distributed as well as almost 85,000 diapers.

“Through our one-to-one mentoring program, we help the client set goals for herself,” Rose says. “As she achieves those goals and attends classes, she earns points that she can use towards baby items. We are not a medical pro-

vider, but we do have a network of medical providers to whom we can refer our clients, and we provide free Natural Family Planning instruction in our centers. We also have a lengthy list of partners in our network so we can give referrals to programs such as WIC, Medicaid, resume writing and career advising.”

Over the years, Rose has seen firsthand how the work done by Foundations of Life has changed lives for the better.

“These centers do work, and it’s evidenced by the continued growth and the miracles that we experience every day as staff and volunteers,” she says. “When I walked the walk with my first client, she was deathly afraid of raising a child with the father. We talked about adoption, and she ended up deciding that she wanted to parent. Her daughter is now going to be eight years old, and we still keep in touch. I found her housing, referred her to Career Source, and helped her to get a job as a telemarketer. Now she’s living in New York with her daughter, and has her own little business going. She is always willing to talk to any mom who is afraid and tell her story, and she also helps with resume writing and advice about jobs and employability. It’s very rewarding when you can tell stories like that.”

Many St. Timothy parishioners are actively involved at Foundations of Life, and new volunteers are always welcome! For more information, visit the website at www.foundationsoflife.org

A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

The Month of Mary: A Time for Celebration and Joy

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the Catholic Church, we designate a particular devotion for each month — and May is when we honor our Blessed Mother Mary. Thus, this is a good time for us to think about and concentrate on our devotion to the Mother of God. Perhaps we can add a few more Marian prayers to our daily routine. Praying the Rosary might be even more important. Of course, that assumes that daily prayer is part of our daily routine — which it should be.

Our Blessed Mother is important to our faith and to our Church. Her willingness to serve in a way that allowed the Lord to take human form really made our salvation a possibility. Because of her complete trust in God, she lived her life free from sin, and after her life, she was assumed into heaven by the power of God and crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth.

She is, of course, not divine. We worship only our Lord Jesus Christ, but we honor Mary as a saint and in many other ways. We honor God when we remember the role of Mary in our salvation. Devotion to Mary always leads to Jesus Christ Himself.

Mary was joyous when she said “yes” to God. That is the kind of joy we need to seek — and we,



too, must say “yes” to the Lord. Let us be grateful to Mary for bringing us her Son. This is why we crown her on our Catholic version of Mother’s Day. Through Mary, we are given an invitation into the Catholic fold. Her feminine presence and the safety of her motherhood may help us grow.

For most of us, this time of year is a month of growth in relation to nature. It is difficult not to have May as one of our favorite months for so many reasons. May is a beautiful time. We are

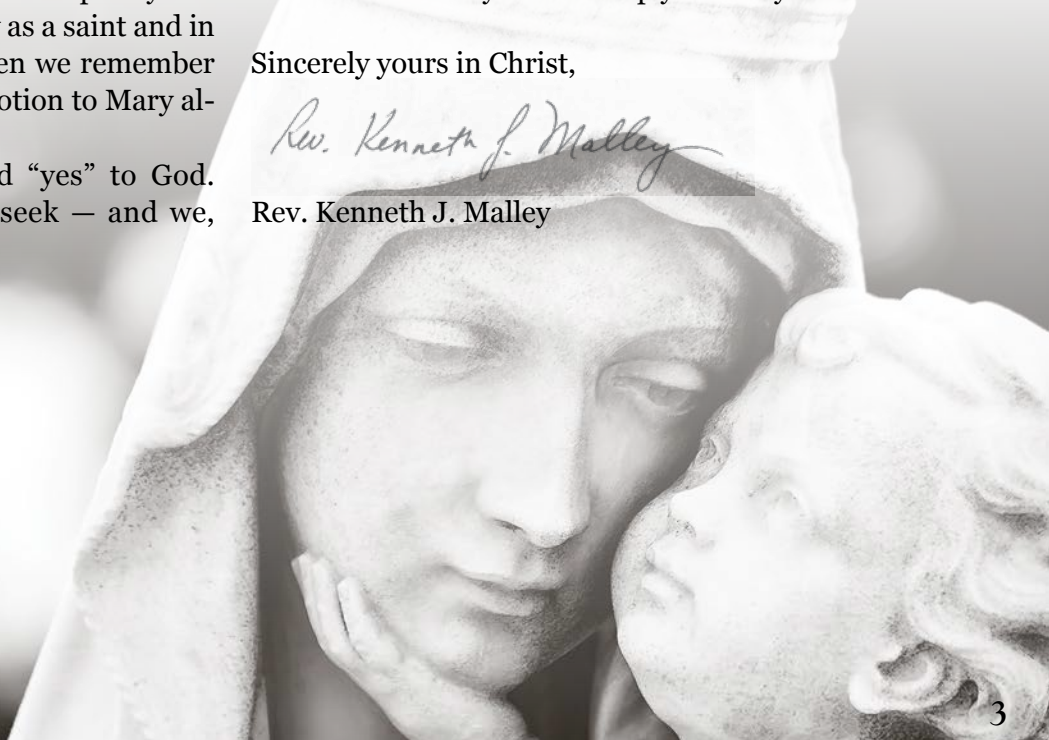
called to make it even more beautiful, and we can do that as we serve and love one another.

I am deeply blessed to be your pastor. I may say that often, but it is true. My priesthood has been a blessing, and serving you all has made that blessing even more significant. I pray for you daily. Please pray for me. God bless you and keep you always.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Kenneth J. Malley". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Rev. Kenneth J. Malley





Connecting Face-to-Face With Christ

When we hear the word “mission,” most of us think of foreign countries — time spent abroad serving the impoverished or proclaiming the Gospel. Yet, the truth is, missionary work is not limited to any specific country or location. There are plenty of people in need of evangelization and aid right here in Florida, as is made clear to our parish youth each year through the Good Samaritan Project.

“It’s just a really great opportunity for our youth to see and experience how much there is to be done for the poor and less fortunate right here in our own backyard,” says Justin Lantz, St. Timothy’s Parish Youth and Young Adult Minister. “A lot of times, we think that we have to go overseas to help the poor and needy, but there are so many ways we can make a difference right here in our own community. I think this retreat really helps the youth become more aware of that.”

Hosted by the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Fla., this annual retreat brings together middle and high school teens from across the diocese for a week of service, prayer and fellowship. Each day, groups



A gathering at last year’s Good Samaritan Project.

are sent out to perform various service activities such as painting and yard work, assisting day care centers for low-income families with their children’s programs, working at homeless shelters and distributing food to the needy. This allows the youth to truly embody the spirit of the beatitudes in often life-changing ways.

“It just really helps the teens’ faith come alive because they are able to put it into action,” Justin says. “It becomes a real, tangible thing to them and they begin actually seeing Christ in the poor

and less fortunate. I think, too, being that it’s a diocesan event, it really connects them to the universal Church, as well.”

Then, when teens return to the retreat facilities, they are able to attend Mass and receive the sacraments, listen to talks from key speakers, participate in discussions, and grow together as a faith community through fun and fellowship.

“There’s an overall sense of reflectiveness each day of what we’ve accomplished during that day, allowing teens to process

“You just see their faces light up. We’re away from our cell phones for an entire week, and although that might seem trivial, that’s really huge for these teens — to be able to unplug and really connect with one another face to face.” — Justin Lantz

Christ: *The Good Samaritan Project*

it and get a greater sense of the meaning behind what they've done," Justin says.

This year St. Timothy Parish is blessed to be sending roughly 30 youth, along with four adult chaperones, to the Good Samaritan Project's second session at Holy Name of Jesus in Gulfport, from July 8-14. Justin looks forward to attending once again, saying that the retreat really "bonds [them] closer together as a youth group." Separated from technology and the social pressures so prevalent in the teens' lives, youth are able to focus more fully on cultivating relationships both with each other and the Person of Jesus Christ.

"You just see their faces light up," Justin says. "We're away from our cell phones for an entire week, and although that might seem trivial, that's really huge for these teens — to be able to unplug and really connect with one another face to face."



Group discussions are an important part of the Good Samaritan Project, allowing youth to process the work that was accomplished during the day.



One of the teens' favorite work sites from last year, Justin says, was working with people who have cerebral palsy at a local center.

We invite all parishioners to pray for our youth during their week of service, so that the missionary spirit may infuse their hearts and transform their lives. For more information about the Good Samaritan Project or St. Timothy's Youth Ministry program in general, please contact Justin Lantz at Justin.lantz@sainttims.org.



THE BLESSINGS OF THE Catholic Mass

It is ironic that today, with all of the freedom of religion that we enjoy in the United States, many of us wonder why we must go to Mass on Sunday.

However, if we really understood what the Mass is and how we participate in the celebration, we would instead be asking why we are, as sinful human beings, blessed with the opportunity to participate in the holy Mass. If we simply understood and recognized that God's infinite goodness allows us to do so, we would be eager to go to Mass on Sunday and every other day of the week.

It is true, however, that all Catholics are obliged to "Keep holy the Lord's Day" by sharing in the Mass. But why are we obliged?

The Eucharistic Liturgy is the center of our faith. It is "the summit toward which all activity of the Church is directed" and it is "the font from which all her power flows" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* 10). It does not exhaust the activity of the Church, but is most certainly her greatest work.

The sacrifice of Christ on the cross is literally re-presented to the Father during Mass, and Christ al-

lows us to join with Him in offering that sacrifice. Imagine our Lord and Savior dying on the cross for us right up the street. Imagine knowing that Mary is sitting at the foot of the cross with St. John, witnessing her Son giving Himself to the Father for the sake of all of us. Would we not run to be there? Would we not desire to share in His sacrifice, just as Mary did?

Believe it or not, the sacrifice of Calvary is really, truly happening at our parish, every time the Mass is offered.

Our participation in Mass gives us the strength and the graces we need to live our lives as Christ's disciples. So, what does this mean for us?

This means we have a front row seat to the sacrifice of Calvary. Given such a gift, how can we not accept it?

We also have a chance to join in Jesus' sacrifice by offering our own prayers and petitions. As an example, what better gift could we give deceased loved ones than the offering of prayers for their souls in purgatory?

Most importantly, we have the opportunity to *receive* the Eucharist, followed by quiet time, when

we offer sincere thanks and allow God's graces to fill us. Think of all you are missing when you do not properly prepare yourself to receive the Holy Eucharist.

We ought to joyfully head to Church each Sunday, eager to give God glory in the greatest way we can! Attending and actively participating in Mass every Sunday is our obligation as Catholics. But we should not allow the fact that our attendance is "required" to stop us from going. Nor should we allow our laziness to overshadow the amazing privilege and the many blessings that lay before us in the Mass.

The pope and the bishops direct us to participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy every Sunday because they know there is no better way to keep holy the Lord's day — giving God thanks for all He has done for us in the most powerful way possible. They know that, through the Mass, we gain the graces necessary to live our lives in this world.

Our ability to participate in the Mass is a wonderful gift, not a great burden. May Christ enlighten our minds and hearts to clearly see the wonders of the celebration, and give us great enthusiasm and eagerness to participate.

Offering Support to Those in Need *Outreach to Our Veterans*

The roots of Veteran care in our country extend all the way back to the 1600s, when the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony enacted a law that the colony would support disabled soldiers. Today, the Veterans Health Administration serves as our country's largest integrated health care system. It provides care at 1,240 health care facilities, including 170 medical centers and 1,061 VHA outpatient clinics. It serves 9 million enrolled Veterans each year.

Our area is served by the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital (JAVHV) at 13000 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard. One of our permanent deacons, Rev. Mr. Glenn Smith, not only serves our parish but is also a Clinical Psychologist at the hospital.

"Much of what we as a Church, and certainly much of what we do at St. Timothy, offers support to all in need, and that certainly includes our veterans," he says. "The James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital is about six miles from our parish. I am familiar with it in a number of ways, not the least of which is that is where I work."

The Tampa Veterans' Hospital currently has 499 beds, but construction is about to begin which will add more than 100 additional beds.

Anyone who wishes more information on how they might help at the Veterans' Hospital or how they might serve the many needs of our veterans can contact Deacon Glenn Smith at 813-968-1077 or email him at deaconglen@sainttims.org. And if you wish to make a gift or volunteer your time, please contact the Voluntary Service Office at 813-972-7533.



"I want our parishioners to be knowledgeable about the hospital and what it does and how they might be able to help," Deacon Glenn says. "I am especially concerned that many veterans do not know that there are a variety of services available to them. In some cases, they are dependent upon eligibility and income, but I think they might be surprised at what they could feasibly make use of, but have never inquired."

As the website for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs notes, "VA's five core values underscore the obligations inherent in VA's mission: Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, and Excellence. The core values define 'who we are,' our culture, and how we care for Veterans and eligible beneficiaries. Our values are more than just words — they affect outcomes in our daily interactions with Veterans and eligible beneficiaries and with each other. Taking the first letter of each word — Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, Excellence — creates a powerful acronym, 'I CARE,' that reminds each VA employee of the importance of their role in this Department. These core values come

continued on back cover



SAINT TIMOTHY

CATHOLIC CHURCH

17512 Lakeshore Road
Lutz, FL 33558
813-968-1077
www.sainttims.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Tampa, FL
Permit No. 3311

Outreach to Our Veterans *continued from page 7*

together as five promises we make as individuals and as an organization to those we serve.”

The James A. Haley Veterans’ Hospital was established in 1972, and is what is called a tertiary care facility. That means it is staffed by specialists — such as Deacon Glenn — who receive referrals from primary care and secondary care establishments. It is a major hospital with a full complement of services, including a broad band of medical branches.

“Of course, we receive government funding and support, but we are still reliant on cash donations, gifts of personal hygiene products for patients, and really could not operate without scores of volunteers,” Deacon Glenn says. “It is donations which provide almost half of our budget.”

Ordained three years ago, Deacon Glenn can draw a direct parallel from his work in the Church to his service with our country’s veterans.

“What I do at the hospital is serve others,” he says. “That is not too different from what I do at St. Timothy.”

“I want our parishioners to be knowledgeable about the hospital and what it does and how they might be able to help. I am especially concerned that many veterans do not know that there are a variety of services available to them. In some cases, they are dependent upon eligibility and income, but I think they might be surprised at what they could feasibly make use of, but have never inquired.” — Deacon Glenn Smith

• *Mass Schedule* •

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m. • Sunday: 7:30, 9, 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. • Daily: Mon-Sat 9 a.m., Wed 6:15 p.m. • Holy Days: 9 a.m. & 7 p.m. Vigil: 7 p.m.