



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH

HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

7040 S Suncoast Blvd.
Phone: (352) 628-7000
E-mail: Info@MyStThomas.org

Homosassa, FL 34446
Fax: (352) 628-4723
www.MyStThomas.org

A warm welcome to everyone, parishioners and guests, whether coming from near or far. I am so happy you could join us today, as we reflect on the Word of God and partake of the Eucharist. My hope is that you feel at home at St. Thomas. ~ **Fr. Glenn**

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: 8:00 am (Monday Friday);
Saturday 8:00 am: Communion
Service Only
First Saturday Mass: 8:00 am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:30 am
(Parish Choir)

HOLY DAYS & HOLIDAYS

Consult our bulletin or parish website:
www.MyStThomas.org
First Friday Adoration: 8:30 am to Noon
Saturday: Reconciliation (Confession)
3:15 - 4:00 pm or by appt.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

It is our pleasure to serve you!

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
Friday - Sunday: Closed

PASTORAL STAFF MEMBERS

Rev. J. Glenn Diaz, Pastor

Assisting Clergy:

Rev. Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak
Deacon Mark Manko

Robert Adams: Maintenance

Karen Ballaban: Comms. Specialist

Robin Furciato: Coord. of Religious Ed.

David Martin: Custodian

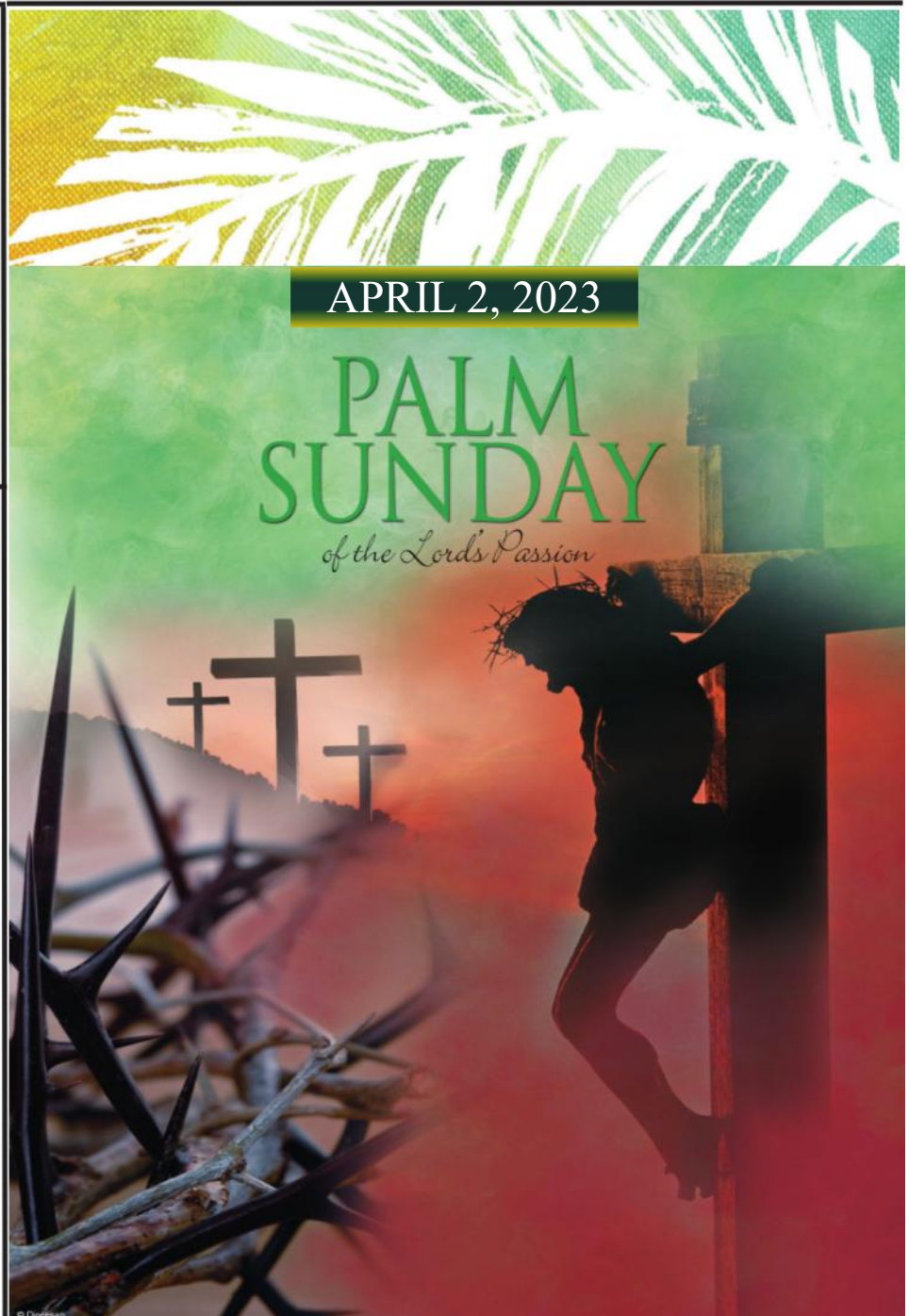
Joseph McEvoy: Pastoral Assistant

Michelle Kim-Painter: Music Director

Alfred Papino: Bookkeeper; Cantor,
& Lead Accompanist

Pauline Papino: Sacristan

Karen Robben: Office and
Communications Manager





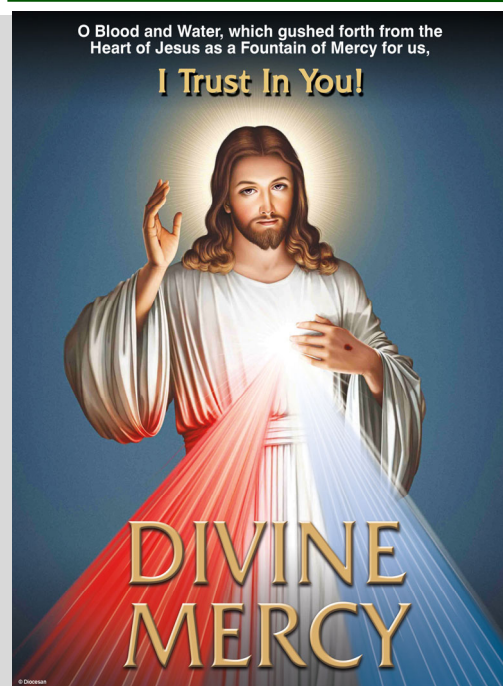
TENDING GOD'S FLOCK

Fr. Glenn | 19 March 2023

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Year A



1. Today is **Palm Sunday**, the beginning of Holy Week, the day when we commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. This event also serves as an entrance into the mystery of our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. Today is also called **Passion Sunday** because today we read Matthew's account of our Lord's passion and death.
2. We invite our parishioners to join us this **Holy Week** as we relive the great events of our faith. Let us journey together this Holy Week from sin to grace, from darkness to light, from discouragement to hope, and from death to new life in Christ. Please consult our Sunday bulletin or our parish website for the schedule of our Holy Week celebrations.
3. The celebration of the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on **Holy Thursday** commences the Paschal Triduum (three days) liturgy, through which we enter deeply into the heart of everything we believe about Jesus and to reflect on who we are called to be as his disciples. On **Good Friday** we journey with the Lord, the innocent servant of God, as he walks the steps to Calvary. The **Easter Vigil** is the most beautiful of liturgies. It is the mother of all vigils, during which we celebrate all that God has done for us throughout salvation history. This year we begin the Easter Vigil not at 4:30 pm, but at 8:00 pm, as suggested by the diocese. We gather together when it starts to get dark, for we are no longer afraid of the darkness!
4. On **Easter Sunday**, the first day of the new creation, we will encounter Jesus risen from the dead, far from the empty tomb, but alive and well among us. Easter Sunday is the pattern and purpose for all other Sunday celebrations of the year. We will renew our baptismal promises at all masses this day. Through the resurrection, we believe that Jesus is ever-present among us. We celebrate a love that will last forever. God is always within us and lives among us even today.



All are invited to join us for the Northern Deanery celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy. This year the celebration will be held on April 16 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Benedict Catholic Church, located at 455 South Suncoast Blvd in Crystal River.

Jesus told St. Maria Faustina Kowalska that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened" (Diary 699). Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to confession and receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, the Second Sunday of Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

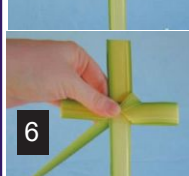
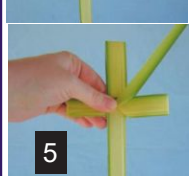
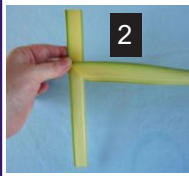
The celebration will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction, reading, prayer reflection, and a blessing of the Divine Mercy picture. You may bring your own image of the Divine Mercy to be blessed.

Participants are encouraged to attend regularly scheduled confessions and Sunday Mass at St. Thomas to fulfill the obligations for Divine Mercy Sunday.

PALM CROSS INSTRUCTIONS & HOLY THURSDAY

This weekend is **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**.

You may be interested in making a cross from your palm. If so, below are written instructions of how to make this type of cross from a palm. If you prefer to watch a "How to make a Cross from Palms" video, we will have one posted on Palm Sunday at Noon on our church Facebook page located at www.facebook.com/MyStThomas.org/



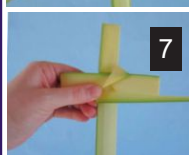
1. Fold the palm down. The length of the short side will be the length of your completed cross.
2. Turn it over so the long side of the palm is facing you. Fold the long side back at a 45 degree angle. This will make one arm of your cross.
3. Fold the long side of the palm back at the length you want the arm of your cross to be.
4. Fold the long side of the palm forward at the length you want the other arm of your cross to be. Now you have your basic cross shape, and you just need to secure it with the amount of palm that's left. You're basically going to make an "X" around your cross to hold it together now.
5. Fold the pointy end of the palm up at a 45 degree angle.
6. Fold the palm down around the back.
7. Now, fold the end up parallel to the arms of the cross.
8. Fold it across the back again at another 45 degree angle.
9. Now, bring the tail of the palm down and thread it under the little piece in the back.
10. Wind the tail around and around that same piece until there is not enough left to wind it anymore.
11. Turn it around and look at your awesome palm cross from the front!

Tip to Make Your Palm Cross Lay Flat

If you want your cross to stay looking nice (rather than curling up as it dries) you can put it under something heavy, such as a large book. This is similar in concept to pressing a flower. Otherwise, you will end up with a mess like this



These instructions and tip were found on www.catholiccicing.com



'SAY A PRAYER': For Holy Thursday, April 6

Jesus, in these last few days leading up to Easter, as I recall your passion and death, let me remember that, above all, I am called to feed your sheep. You have given me a model of how to live; may I strive to be all that you created me for, spreading the love of God and the truth of our Catholic faith wherever I am able. You are the way, the truth, and the life. Amen. ~dynamiccatholic.com

Please join us at 4:30pm on Holy Thursday for the Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet.

IN OUR PRAYERS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 2

8:00 am: Parish Family

10:30 am: Nicole Polisano

Requested by: The Casey Family

Monday, April 3

8:00 am: JoAnna Daly †

Requested by: Pat Daly

Tuesday, April 4

8:00 am: Arnold Scholz †

Requested by: Helen & Gene Koczur

Wednesday, April 5

8:00 am: Joseph † & Irene † Kopin

Requested by: Jeri & Douglas Kopin

Thursday, April 6

4:30 pm: Charles C. Sheridan †

Requested by: Charles J. Sheridan & Family

Friday, April 7

**3:00 pm Good Friday: The Lord's
Passion (with communion)**

Saturday, April 8

8:00 pm: Salvatore † & Theresa † Ricotta

Requested by: Loving Daughters,
Anne & Ramona,

Sunday, April 9

**8:00 am: Mass Intention and
Bread & Wine are
in loving memory of
Pauline † & Joseph † Pafchek
and Family †**

Requested/Donated by: Daughter & Sister,
Norma Pafchek

10:30 am: Parish Family

DAILY READINGS, SAINTS, & OBSERVANCES



Sunday (*Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion*)

Procession: Mt 21:1-11

At Mass: Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24;
Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

Monday (*Monday of Holy Week*)

Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday (*Tuesday of Holy Week*)

Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 & 17;
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday (*Wednesday of Holy Week*)

Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 & 33-34;
Mt 26:14-25

Thursday (*Holy Thursday of the Lord's Passion*)

Chrism Mass: Is 61: 1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25,
27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-
16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Friday (*Good Friday of the Lord's Passion*)

Is 52:13--53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday (*Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter*)

Gn 1:1—2:2 or Gn 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10,
12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22;
Gn 22:1-18 or Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 16:5,
8, 9-10, 11; Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17
-18; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Is 55:1-
11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ps 19:8, 9,
10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is
12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Rom
6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10

Sunday (*The Resurrection of the Lord*)

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10
or Lk 24:13-35

LORD, GRACIOUSLY HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers all those in our parish family
who are ill, especially:

Fran Frankenberger, Karl Wolf, Ethan Grayshan, Rita & Art Frisbie, Virginia Kanis, Scott Klaben, Kerrie Schmidt, Mike Jablonsky, Stephanie St. Clair, Mary Ann DeSimone, Bertha Watson, Charles Terreault, Gordon Gould, Christine Gicola, Rita Tanner, Skip Guss, Elizabeth Dostal, Fran Loeffler, Anthony Cimorelli, Ron Rothe, Marguerite Corrao, Rusty Ryal, Msgr. Joseph Sobiesiak, Marjorie Ziegler, Norma Galvin, Wendell Miller, Joseph Hertrich, Michelle LaGreca, Sutton Hotard, Charles Harvey, Betty Parker, David Cheevers, Joseph & Gail Carey, Deacon Vince Small, Kobe Calzaretta, Raymond Huffman, Tony Caposieno, Wade Wolfe, Samantha Wasley, Don Harnett, Nick Russo, Frank Watson, Peggy Lingrosso, Anne Lunk, Kerin Hedgcoxe, and our Website Prayer Requests. **To add or remove someone from our parish prayer list, please contact the parish office.**

CHURCH EVENTS & COLLECTIONS

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET
is prayed every weekday following the 8:00 am Mass.

Together We Pray!



Sunday, April 2: <i>Palm Sunday & "Name Tag Sunday"</i> Collections: Parish Building Fund and Pregnancy & Family Life	8:00 am 9:00 am—10:15 am 10:30 am	Mass Youth Faith Formation Mass
Monday, April 3:	8:00 am 10:00 am	Mass Bible Study (Forgiven)
Tuesday, April 4: <div style="text-align: center;">→</div>	8:00 am Please note that the	Parish Office Closed Today Mass Respect Life Meeting is <u>Cancelled</u>
Wednesday, April 5:	8:00 am 4:30 pm	Mass SVdP Meeting
Thursday, April 6: (Holy Thursday) No 8:00 am Mass; No Morning Adoration Collection: Holy Thursday	1:00 pm 4:30 pm	Bereavement Meeting Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in front of the Altar of Repose until 7:00 pm
Friday, April 7: (Good Friday) <i>Day of Fast and Abstinence</i> No 8:00 am ; No First Friday Adoration Collection: Good Friday	3:00 pm	The Lord's Passion (with communion)
Saturday, April 8: Easter Vigil No 8:00 am Saturday Mass; No Confessions	Noon 8:00 pm	Easter Food Blessing Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 9: <i>The Resurrection of the Lord</i> Happy Easter! Collections: Easter & SVdP Money Collection	8:00 am 10:30 am	Easter Sunday Mass Easter Sunday Mass

Parish Office will be Closed:
Tuesday, April 4 (Chrism Mass @ St. Jude) and
Monday, April 10 (Easter Holiday)

'Say A Prayer' A Prayer for Good Friday

Jesus, No one knows change better than you. You died on the cross, and three days later you rose from the dead. Forty days later you ascended into heaven and left the world transformed for the rest of time. Help me to transform my soul, to die to sin and death and be reborn in your love and eternal life. Amen.
~ dynamiccatholic.com

Please join us at 3:00 pm for The Lord's Passion (with communion) on Good Friday, April 7.

Good Friday is a Day of Fast and Abstinence.



Fr. Glenn and the entire St. Thomas Pastoral Staff wish much happiness, joy, and congratulations to all our parishioners enjoying a Birthday, Wedding Anniversary, and/or Birth of a Baby/Grandbaby during the month of April.

May God bless you with his infinite love, comforting peace, and heavenly joy throughout the coming year.

ST. THOMAS MINISTRIES UPDATES & REMINDERS



Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

Next weekend (April 8/9) is the SVdP Money Collection and the following weekend (April 15/16) is the SVdP Food Collection.

Through the generous support of our parishioners, St. Thomas's St. Vincent de Paul Society in March received 70 phone calls and served 21 cases which provided support for 50 people. We distributed 143 lbs. of food, made 21 home visits, and provided \$1871.66 in total expenses. (lodging, food, clothing, utilities, etc.) Our SVdP Teams spent 166 hours and traveled 606 miles in service to our clients.

Our SVdP phone number for assistance is 352-628-3366. If you know of someone who needs assistance, please tell them to call us.

We are still trying to recruit volunteers to do home visits or to help with our money and food collections. All interested parishioners are invited to attend our meetings which are held on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 4:30 PM in St Martin's Hall.

Our next meeting is on April 5th. Please come and learn more about our ministry.

Season of Lent ALMSGIVING LAST WEEKEND



This Lent, St. Thomas will match the first \$500 in "Poor Box" Donations received **through this weekend, Palm Sunday**. The funds will be given to our SVdP conference and "Love More" Ministries.

Please consider giving a donation today. Just drop it in one of the Church Poor Boxes.
Thank you!



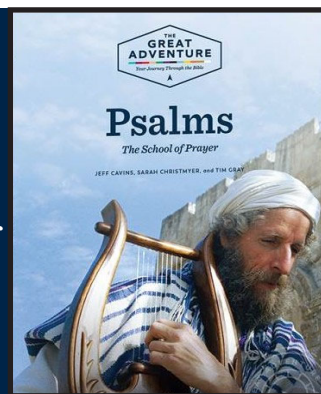
PLEASE
SUPPORT
OUR
Y
O
F
U
F
A
T
H
O
R
I
T
Y
M
A
T
I
O
N

Bible Study with Deacon Mark

Beginning April 17, 2023, we are starting a new bible study: "Psalms: The School of Prayer". Led by Deacon Mark Manko, this study will show you how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God through the Psalms.

Learn how to meditate fruitfully on the captivating words of the Psalms using lectio divina and study the many ways the Psalms foretell the life and mission of Jesus.

The bible study will be held on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. for 11 sessions, and the cost of the workbook is \$29.95. Please contact the office to register.





HOLY WEEK

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Holy Thursday, April 6	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Morning Adoration</u> 4:30 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of the Feet. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in front of the Altar of Repose until 7:00 pm
Good Friday, April 7 Day of Fast and Abstinence	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Adoration</u> 3:00 pm	The Lord's Passion (with communion)
Holy Saturday, April 8	<u>No 8:00 am Mass today</u> <u>No Confessions</u> Noon 8:00 pm	Easter Food Blessing Easter Vigil — Begins at 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday, April 9 Happy Easter!	8:00 am and 10:30 am	The Resurrection of the Lord— Easter Sunday Masses

**START EACH DAY WITH
A GRATEFUL HEART**



St. Thomas Corner of Gratitude!

Dear St. Thomas Congregation and Father Glenn,

I would like to thank you for your dedication to The Pregnancy and Family Life Center. Women, men, and children you will never know are grateful because you chose to give. They have a new perspective on life, and on the preciousness of every human life. They see their children now as a gift instead of a burden. All many of them will ever know is that "those people there helped me." They don't know what you are doing behind the scenes to make this all possible. You are the reason I and others have an opportunity to serve here. We get to see life changes first-hand, and God is using you to make it possible. So, though it hardly seems enough, "Thank you!" Your investment in this work is truly a life-changer, for those we see—and for those who serve. We appreciate you, more than you can know. Thank you for your monthly collections and all the extra items you recently donated.

Stephanie Bell, RN

Executive Director, The Pregnancy and Family Life Center



At the Chrism Mass at St. Jude's Cathedral on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, Bishop Gregory Parkes will recognize priests who are celebrating special anniversaries of their ordination.



This year, our Pastor Emeritus, **Rev. Ronald A. Marecki**, will be recognized for 40 years of service.

Congratulations, Fr. Ron!

Thank you for your ministry to all whom you served during these 40 years!

May the LORD bless you and keep you!

~ Numbers 6:24



Diocesan is proud to now be printing
**St. Thomas the Apostle's
 Sunday Bulletin**



You are invited to help support our Parish!
For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-997-4986



Wilder-Funeral Home
 Jeff Macrini, Funeral Director
628-3344 US Hwy. 19, Homosassa Springs

HOOPER FUNERAL HOME
 Homosassa Springs
352-628-3237
 "Locally Owned & Operated"

Boulerice
ROOFING & SUPPLY INC.
 New Roofs
 Reroofs
 Repairs
 Free Estimates
 Robert • Barry
352-628-7445
866-319-2952

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
JOHN NOVAK, INC. Since 1988
 AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
 American Standard®
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

- Family Owned and Operated
- As a practicing Catholic family and business we treat you with integrity and professionalism.
- Servicing all major brands
- Commercial/ Residential
- Ice Machines

Hernando: **352-754-1890**
 Citrus: **352-341-1179**

State Cert # CAC0636926

DESKUS BBB

MasterCard VISA

B BRIJBAG LAW
 CAR ACCIDENT ♦ PERSONAL INJURY
 FREE CONSULTATIONS - VIRTUAL OR IN OFFICE
 5329 COMMERCIAL WAY
 SPRING HILL, FL 34606

HERNANDO ♦ PASCO ♦ CITRUS
WWW.BRIJBAGLAW.COM
352.358.5880

EWTN.COM/RADIO
EWTN
 Global Catholic Radio

CBJD
 THE CENTER FOR BONE & JOINT DISEASE

**THE CENTER FOR
 BONE & JOINT DISEASE**
(352) 596-0900
 10221 Yale Avenue
 Brooksville, FL 34613
CenterForBoneAndJoint.com

- Craig Bennett, M.D. - General Ortho
- Jared Salinsky, D.O. - General Ortho
- George Kardashian, M.D. - Hand/Elbow
- Juan Raposo, M.D. - Revisions/Spine
- Kirill Ilalov, M.D. - Spine
- Dragomir Mijic, D.O. - Shoulder
- Dolfi Herscovici, D.O. - Foot/Ankle
- Korey Yngstrom, D.O. - Hip/Trauma
- Kenton Panas, M.D. - Sports Fellowship Shoulder
- Christopher Reyher, M.D. - Physiatry/General
- Huy Nguyen, M.D. - Physiatry/General
- Alexander Pappas, D.P.M. - Podiatrist

Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.
 Simply go to **www.DM.CHURCH/4431**

...or scan

DISCOVERMASS

The Nature Coast's Premier
ESTATE PLANNING
 Law Firm

HENGESBACH & HENGESBACH
 ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
 WILLS | TRUSTS | PROBATE | ELDER LAW

Spring Hill Office: (352) 683-1963
www.naturecoastlaw.com

catholicmatch®
 Florida

CatholicMatch.com/goFL

AAA ROOFING
 24 Times Best of the Best
 Bonded & Insured
 State Lic. CCC057537

Call The "Leakbusters"

Crystal River **563-0411**
 Inverness **726-8917**
 Ocala **352-840-0445**

email: aaaroofingfl@yahoo.com
 web: aaaroofingflorida.com

Free Estimates
 Fax 352-563-0001

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

