

SAINT RAPHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

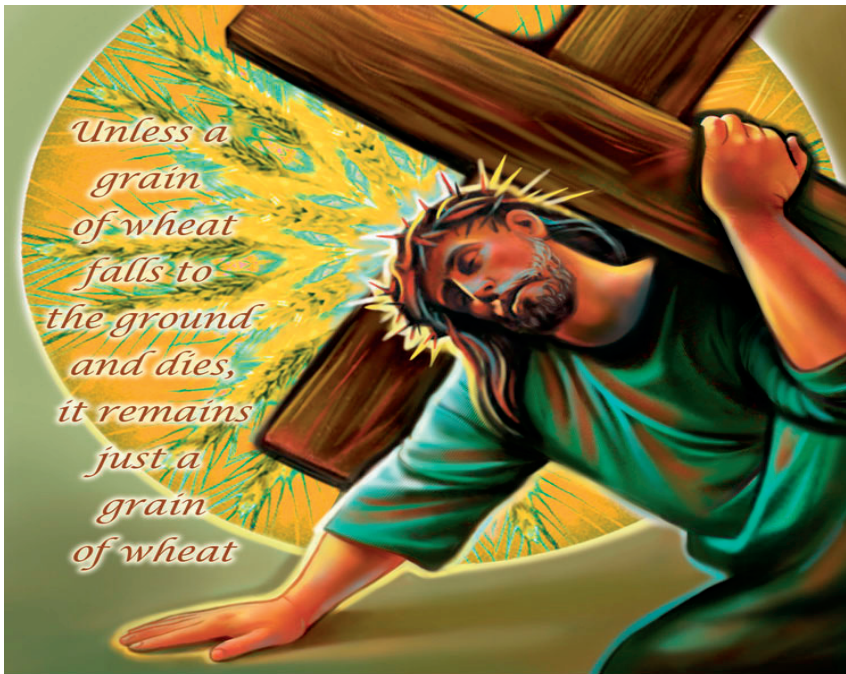
770 KILBOURNE AVENUE,
ENGLEWOOD, FLORIDA 34223

Office: (941) 474-9595
Fax: (941) 475-5697
Web Site: www.strapheng.org
E-mail: office@strapheng.org

March 17, 2024



PRAYER TO ST. RAPHAEL
May the Angel Raphael, physician of our salvation, help us from the heights of heaven, heal all diseases and guide our faltering steps toward the true life. Amen.



*Unless a
grain
of wheat
falls to
the ground
and dies,
it remains
just a
grain
of wheat*

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc

Weekend Mass Schedule

November 1-April 30

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00PM
Sunday 7:30AM; 9:00AM; & 11:00AM

May 1-October 31

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00PM
Sunday 8:00AM & 10:00AM

Weekday Mass Schedule 8:30AM

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet prayed daily following morning weekday Mass.

Holy Day Masses

(unless noted otherwise in bulletin)

Vigil Mass 4:00PM
Holy Day 8:30AM & 7:00PM

Parish Office

8:30AM- 4:30PM Monday -Thursday

8:30AM-12:00PM Friday

**Closed Friday pm for admin. purposes.*

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 9:00-9:30AM & 2:30-3:00PM

Sacrament of the Sick

Anointing is available upon request before surgery, serious illness and emergency at any time. Please contact the office.

Hearing Loop

The church is equipped with a hearing loop assistive listening system. (Switch your hearing aid to "T" telephone mode).

Church Directory-

Rev. Robert Murphy ([email:Fr.Bob@strapheng.org](mailto:Fr.Bob@strapheng.org))

Deacon Mike Gardner

Jean Balmes-Office Manager

Jeffrey Herbert-Director of Music

Deacon Larry Motyka – Accounting

Rodi Reyes-Maintenance/Custodial Services

Church Building Hours

Monday —Friday Open 7:45am—12noon

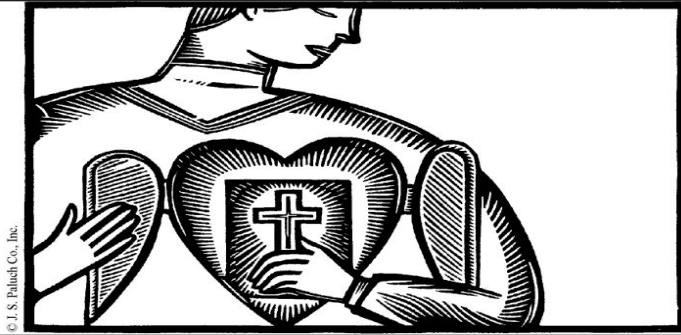
Saturday Open 7:45am—5:00pm

Sunday Open 7:00am-11:00am

Fifth Sunday of Lent

I will place my law within them
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

— Jeremiah 31:33



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent
Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Monday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; PS 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56

Sunday Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or Mk 15:1-39

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Psalms — Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51)

Second Reading — Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9)

Gospel — If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33)

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please call Charlotte if prayers are needed at (941) 408-9588. Prayer intentions are passed on only to those who are part of the prayer chain. All information is confidential.

ST. RAPHAEL TREASURE CHEST

Offertory 03/10/2024 \$ 12,597.99

CRS \$ 3136.00

2024 Catholic Faith Appeal 03/04/2024

GOAL: \$ 144,000 % OF GOAL: 59.02 %

PLEDGED: \$ 84,984.09 PAYMENTS: \$ 66,998.09

Next 2nd Collection: April 28 Catholic Home Missions

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

As we approach Holy Week, the creative juices of the ancient church of Jerusalem begin to shape our journey. In old Jerusalem at this season of the year, the attempt was made to recall the events leading up to Christ's passion. Those attempts were based not only on time, with celebrations of events as close to the day and hour as possible, but also on people's best guesses as to the actual place of these events. Vast numbers of pilgrims flooded the city during the forty days of Lent, many of them catechumens in their last stages of preparation for initiation. The fourth-century Spanish nun Egeria wrote a delightfully detailed diary of her experience of this lively and aerobic liturgy, which involved hearty singing, strong preaching, and nimble processions across vast and arduous terrain.

Much of this energy was lost over the centuries, with the procession of palms a noteworthy exception. Northern climates had to reinterpret this Jerusalem liturgy, using forsythia, willow, or olive branches, but to this day the entry into Holy Week by a community on the move accompanied by joyful song hearkens back to a venerable tradition. Egeria's letters were rediscovered a little more than a hundred years ago, but they reveal a pattern of prayer: full, conscious, active participation, to which we have a right and a duty. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THE NEW COVENANT



When the prophet Jeremiah coined the term "new covenant" he was actually doing something quite radical. For the Jewish people, there was only one covenant, the one made between the Lord God and Israel through Moses at Mount Sinai. For Jeremiah to suggest that God would somehow supersede the covenant

with a new one would have sounded audacious to Jewish ears. But in this way he is a predecessor of Jesus who, in the Gospel of John, is continually portrayed as superseding the past, establishing the reign of God in a new way. And in today's Gospel passage, Jesus the "new covenant" speaks the language of his "new commandment" of love when he tells of the dying grain of wheat, and of our own need to die to self in order to be raised with Christ. As Lent ends and we prepare to enter into Holy Week, the dying grain of wheat serves as an excellent symbol of the kind of dying and self-sacrifice to which disciples are called, a symbol of that new covenant written deep within our hearts.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



REGULATIONS ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

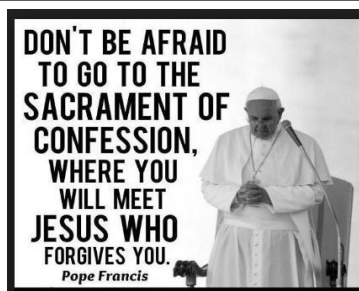
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 years (inclusive). On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed.

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are all days of abstinence.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self denial that are suitable to their condition.

Fasting, almsgiving and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

As the Lenten Season progresses, the precept of confessing grave sins and receiving Holy Communion at least once during the Lenten Season merits a reminder to all. To facilitate this requirement, every Parish in the Diocese of Venice will be open with a confessor present from 4pm-8pm on Friday, March 22 and from 9am to noon on Saturday, March 23. These opportunities are made available so that the faithful may find ample opportunity to receive God's Mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lenten Season.

DANGEROUS PRO-ABORTION INITIATIVE INCHES FORWARD!

The "Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion" has collected enough signatures to qualify for the November 2024 ballot. The Florida Supreme Court is currently considering whether the language of the proposed amendment is misleading. Their decision, due by April 1, will determine if the amendment will appear on the November ballot. How can you help? Stay informed and be ready to defeat this amendment if it makes it to the ballot. Visit TooExtremeForFL.com, a website created by Florida Voters Against Extremism, and share what you learn with your friends. This deceptive amendment is not what it seems and would disallow any government regulation of abortion, allowing it up until birth.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS
will take place every Friday morning during the Lenten Season following the 8:30am Mass.



SIMPLE SUPPERS

St. Raphael Church will be hosting the final simple suppers on:

Wednesday, March 20 5-7PM

These simple meals include soup/bread / coffee and tea. There is no cost for the meals, however monetary donations will be

accepted. In addition, consider bringing a canned good to donate to the local food bank. All are invited to attend.

EASTER CANDY DONATIONS



Next weekend will be the last date to donate Easter candy for the children of St. Michael parish in Wauchula. Candy may be dropped off in the church vestibule or in the parish office. Thank you!

FORMING CONSCIENCES FOR FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

"We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern" - Pope Francis. In this election year, please remember that shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, and a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ. Guidance for Catholics in the exercise of their rights and duties as participants in our democracy is available from the USCCB, at faithfulcitizenship.org. Visit the website to deepen your understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, and the teachings of the Church that relate to the social, economic, and political issues of our time.

RISKS

I risk being wrong if I trust too much. But I risk living in torment if I don't trust enough. —Anonymous

WITNESSING FAITH with Bishop Dewane

Join Bishop Frank J. Dewane for his monthly radio program on Relevant Radio on 106.7 FM and 1410 AM in Fort Myers and 93.3 FM (NEW) and 1660 AM and in Naples. "Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane" can be heard at 8:30am on the last Friday of each month or listen at <https://dioceseofvenice.org/our-bishop/relevant-radio-podcasts>.

MARRIAGE TROUBLES?

Visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call (813)212-4553. Not counseling or group therapy. Strictly Confidential.

ABORTION RECOVERY

Hope after abortion. Call Sylvia at 941-412-5860 or email projectrachel@dioceseofvenice.org. Calls are confidential.

DIGITAL FLORIDA CATHOLIC

The Florida Catholic e-Edition is FREE! Signing up for the weekly digital paper at <https://dioceseofvenice.org/news/>.

FOOD BANK

Donations of non-perishable food for Helping Hands, our local food bank, can be dropped off in the church vestibule any weekend. Thank you for helping those in need!

CCW CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Anyone experiencing physical or emotional distress & needs to feel the touch of God & His love may receive a blessed shawl. Group meets Mondays 1-3pm in parish center. All are welcome. Info: Jackie 941-474-7828 or Anne 941-460-2733.

CRAFT CLUB: Fridays 10am-noon Info: Judie 941-374-5521 or Diane 248-762-5264.

LOVE AND DEATH

Unhappy is death without the love of the Savior;
unhappy is love without the death of the Savior.

—St. Francis de Sales



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
Retreat and Spirituality Center
3989 S. Moon Dr. Venice FL

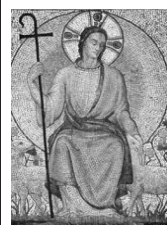
Monthly Day of Prayer - The Monthly Day of Prayer for 2024 will take place on the second Sunday and second Wednesday of the Month. Day begins at 9:30am with continental breakfast, and includes two conferences, lunch, Eucharistic Adoration, opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, private meditation, and prayer. Topic is the same for both sessions. To register, visit: <https://olph-retreat.org/monthly-day-of-prayer>.

Various Retreat Opportunities - Sacred Triduum Retreat will be held from March 28-31. To learn more or to register for a group or private retreat, please visit our website: www.olph-retreat.org or call (941) 486-0233.

OUR PARISH IS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

committed to protecting children, youth and vulnerable adults. As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment prior to beginning employment or volunteering. Visit the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment for further information. Report any abuse against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families at 800-962-2873. To report abuse by Diocesan personnel or volunteers also notify the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Susan Benton, at 941-416-6114. If you are interested in employment or volunteer opportunities within the Diocese of Venice, visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/employment, or reach out to the Parish directly for information on volunteer opportunities.

PLEASE NOTE: All club/group members must comply and complete the Safe Environment requirements of the Diocese of Venice. If there are individuals who require Safe Environment training, contact the office for information.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

© 2011, USCCB The Good Shepherd, detail from the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Bancel La Farge and Ravenna Mosaic Company, 1926. Photograph courtesy of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, 2011. Photographer: Geraldine M. Rohling.

FREE ROSARY REPAIR SERVICE

Send rosaries in a padded envelope to Betty & Dick Holden, 7930 Estero Blvd. #592, Fort Myers, FL 33931. Completed within week of receipt. Rosaries are also accepted for missions. Indicate repair or donation. 239-463-3993.

TELEVISED MASS

The Diocese of Venice offers a TV Mass each Sunday. Northern Diocese: 9:30am on CW Network. Southern Diocese: 10:30am on FOX4. Check your local listings. If you need assistance contact the parish office.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



“To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ” (*The Gospel of Life* 84).

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Join Bishop Frank J. Dewane on a Pilgrimage to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 17-21. This Congress represents the culmination of the Church’s three-year effort to put an emphasis on the Real Presence of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the Holy Eucharistic. Cost \$1,049 includes 5-day pass (provides access to speakers/events) four nights’ accommodations in a 4-star hotel. Package does not include transportation/meals Limited space! Contact Carrie at harkey@dioceseofvenice.org .

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Last year the Venice Conference of SVPD provided over \$300,000 to people in the Venice/Nokomis/Englewood area. We are grateful for your prayers & perhaps consideration of a donation at svdpvenicefl.org. Call 942-943-2027 for info about becoming a volunteer. We are hosting a Walk for the Poor on Sat. March 23 at 9:30AM at Epiphany Cathedral, Venice to increase awareness in the community. If you know of anyone who needs assistance, call 941-493-2027.

GOD UPHOLDS ME

I take for my sureties: The power of God to guide me, the might of God to uphold me, the wisdom of God to teach me, the eye of God to watch over me, the ear of God to hear me, the word of God to give me speech, the hand of God to protect me, the way of God to go before me, the shield of God to shelter me. —St. Patrick

NEW FILM TELLS STORY OF ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI

New Film Tells Story of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini - Cabrini, a new film by the director of Sound of Freedom, Alejandro Monteverde, tells the true story of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. Italian immigrant Francesca Cabrini, after witnessing disease and poverty in the slums of New York, embarks on a daring journey to persuade the hostile mayor to provide housing and healthcare for hundreds of orphaned children, and ultimately succeeds in building “an empire of hope.” The film has been described as “uncompromising in its Catholicism” by reviewers. Check your local theater.

PLEASE NOTE:
Please contact the parish office if you would like information regarding donating offertory on line. Many parishioners take advantage of this ability offered by most banks and enjoy the convenience of this hassle-free way of giving. As always, thank you for your support of St. Raphael parish!

PARISH CENTER : March 18-March 24		
Monday	9:30AM	Cornerstone Bible Study
	1:00PM	Prayer Shawl
Tuesday		
Wednesday	5:00PM	Lenten Simple Supper
Thursday		
Friday	10:00AM	CCW Crafts
Saturday		
Sunday		

CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

The appeal is a yearlong process. Gifts & pledges can be made throughout the year until Dec. 31. Every Parish is assessed a share of the expenses of running the programs/ministries of the Diocese. We ask each Catholic family in the parish to help us raise our share to help us to meet our goal. Each week we will feature various offices/departments and explain how each one contributes to the work being accomplished in the Diocese of Venice.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help & Campo San José Retreat Centers: These Spirituality Centers offer a variety of spiritual growth experiences for individuals and groups seeking to deepen their faith, refocus on their spiritual lives, develop a relationship with Christ or encounter God in a peaceful and supportive environment. Although heavily damaged by Hurricane Ian, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center is now open for individual, group, and parish retreats. The Campo San José Retreat Center primarily hosts groups with the focus directed to spiritual enrichment and growth.



ALTAR BREAD AND WINE

were donated in loving memory of Robert Kiedrowski Sr. by his children.

MASS INTENTIONS		
Monday March 18 through Sunday March 24		
Mon	8:30AM	Giovanna Roy Req. by her son Nicholas
Tues.	8:30AM	Protection under St. Joseph
Wed	8:30AM	Madeleine Sienkiewicz Req. by her sister Florence
Thur	8:30AM	Roberta Osborn Req. by her sister Florence
Fri.	8:30AM	Joan Wright Req. by Gerry Wright
Sat.	8:30AM	Purgatorial Society
	4:00PM	Theresa Delke Req. by her son Stephen Schrock
Sun	7:30AM	Lois Merrimon Req. by Kim & Vincent Rolletta
	9:00AM	Kenneth & Jessica Tomblin Req. by Pat & Julie Welch
	11:00AM	People of the Parish
Please remember in your prayers the sick of the parish and all who have gone before us in the faith.		

Interventional Pain Management



FAMILY SPINE AND PAIN CARE INSTITUTE
OMAR H. HENRIQUEZ, MD
Anesthesiology & Pain Management

Sciatica Pain • Spinal Stenosis
 Back Fractures
 Joint Pain (Knee, Hips, Shoulders, Arms)

Medicare & commercial insurances accepted

941.237.0050 | www.FSAPCARE.com
 1505 S. Tamiami Trail, #405, Venice, FL 34285
 3390 Tamiami Trail, #202, Port Charlotte, FL 33952




KATHI O GROUP

KATHI OBENDORFER, PA
 REALTOR® RE/MAX PALM REALTY

C: 941.445.3775 O: 941-208-5246
WWW.KATHIOGROUP.COM
 170 DEARBORN ST. UNIT B
 ENGLEWOOD, FL 34223



CHURCH PARISHIONER

Everything we touch turns to...**SOLD!**



Michael J. Looney, Inc.
 Electrical Contractor

OVER 30 YEARS IN BUSINESS

24 Hour Emergency Service

Lic# EC0001536

Tire & Auto Repair
 FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR
 All Domestic & Asian Models

- Brakes
- Air Conditioning
- Tires at Cost
- And Much More...

941.474.3793
 101 N. McCall Road

(941) 474-3104
michaeljlooney.com

Charles A. Suleskey, DPM
 PODIATRIST FOOT SPECIALIST

Board Certified in Foot Surgery

941-493-7999 • 1832 Tamiami Trl S.

Fellow, American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons
 Venice Office & Englewood Wound Care | Local Parishioner

Gentle Professional Foot Care



JUSTICEPAYS.COM
 Accident Law

Bernard F. Walsh
www.JusticePays.com

Hablamos Español

941-485-3777 | Englewood



Johnson Medical Center

Knee, Back, Hip or Shoulder Pain?
 Integrative Medicine

(941) 484-5333
www.drjpp.com



Over 35 Years In Practice - Epiphany Parishioner

ADVERTISE HERE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish. Give us a call! 800-292-9111

Frank D's HANDYMAN SERVICE

Quality, Personalized Service
 Full Line of Home Services

Frank DiCarlo • 941.224.6553
 Free Estimates • Insured • Licensed

HINCK
 PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC

Your Hometown Certified Financial Planners





Thomas J. Hinck CFP®
 James L. Hinck CFP®, CIMA®

www.hinckpwm.com 941.474.3271

1177 S. McCall Road • Englewood, FL 34223

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network® Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor.



20/20 AND BEYOND
 The Future of Eyecare


COMPLETE EYE CARE
 From Eye Exams to Technologically Advanced
CATARACT/LASER SURGERY
 Medicare assignment accepted
 Bring this ad for 10% off glasses

474-2266
 Full Service Optical Dispensary • 1500 Placida Road, B-2, Englewood
www.2020andbeyond.com


MLG HURRICANE ATTORNEY

Underpaid & Denied Property Damage Claims
 NO RECOVERY, NO FEE!

FREE CONSULTATIONS
 (786) 706-8992
 SCAN FOR MORE WAYS TO CONNECT



JOHN MAHONEY
 YOUR CATHOLIC PROPERTY DAMAGE LITIGATOR




The Catholic Funeral Plan®
 for South West Florida

Considering pre-planning?
 Call **Cindy Kean!**

877-886-7526
 or visit cfppgh.com now!




VENICE AVENUE DERMATOLOGY

Welcoming New Patients

General, Surgical & Cosmetic Dermatology

Jeffrey R. Hunek, M.D.
 Board Certified | Epiphany Parishioner & Parent



941-486-1404
VeniceAveDerm.com
 897 E. Venice Ave., Ste. A
 Venice, FL 34285

MLG HURRICANE ATTORNEY

Underpaid & Denied Property Damage Claims
 NO RECOVERY, NO FEE!

FREE CONSULTATIONS
 (786) 706-8992
 SCAN FOR MORE WAYS TO CONNECT



JOHN MAHONEY
 YOUR CATHOLIC PROPERTY DAMAGE LITIGATOR



CAMERON LOH ESQ PLLC
 1620 Placida Rd., Ste. D, Englewood, FL

WILLS | TRUSTS | PROBATE
 No CONSULTATION FEE!
 941.475.4418 www.lohlaw.net



Justin Smith PL Realtor. 941-221-1009



+lpt realty =  **REAL ESTATE REIMAGINED**

My Flexible Commission Program starts at only **2% FULL-SERVICE**

Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioner