

TRINITY TRIANGLE

Stewardship - A Way of Life

TIME • TALENT • TREASURE

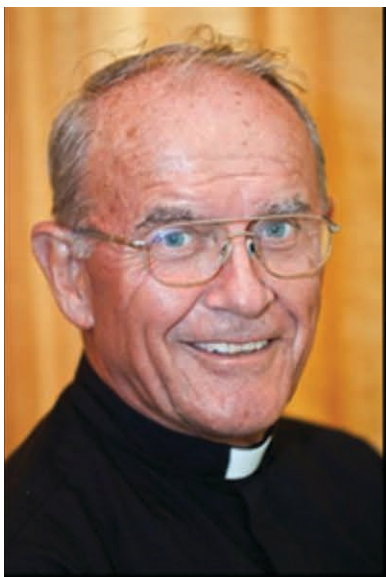
Catholic Community of Blessed Trinity



Come Home!



Photos courtesy of Melanie Ross, Tim Westgate, & Ana Vanegas



Come Back

*The Door is
Wide Open*



As I write this reflection, we are less than two weeks away from celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus. The Easter Vigil Mass, with the lighting of the paschal fire, the lighting of the new paschal candle and the spreading of that light to all gathered in a dark church, is the high point of all the Easter celebrations. I know the Mass at dawn gets much more attention. There is nothing wrong with giving the Mass at the sun's rising special importance.

There seems to be a growing renewed public interest in the Catholic faith. We have 30 children receiving First Communion at the Holy Thursday Mass. All these children are above the 2nd grade. We had five or six adults receiving Confirmation by the Bishop with all the teenagers. We have 29 receiving sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Communion & Confirmation) at the Easter Vigil. We have a possible six or seven more adults or teens, who came in late for preparation for the Easter Vigil, who are forming a new class to get ready for possible confirmation at Pentecost. We also have a lot more Catholics coming to get their civil marriage blessed by a priest, thereby receiving the sacrament of marriage.

Some Catholics are coming back to Mass after being absent for years. It is wonderful to see. Maybe the ad on TV (Catholics can come home) inspires some of them. Many of the ones I have met, either while sitting outside the door of the church before Masses, or on the phone, have made their own inquiries about the fullness of faith presented by the Catholic church. They conclude from their active participation in other religions that there was "something missing". They learn that Jesus Christ founded the Catholic church in the year 33 AD.

They come on their own to Mass – many of them. While they see, often to their amazement, that we use big passages of God's Word (the Bible) during each Mass, they also witness that we come primarily to worship God's presence at the consecration and receive Jesus (if ready) at Holy Communion. They realize choirs are good, liturgical music is good, good sermons are necessary. But these, on their own, do not satisfy them. They like the reverence and prayerful atmosphere inside our Catholic church. They like to come, not only to sing and hear God's word, but most especially to worship God, to give Him thanks, to receive Him in the Holy Eucharist and to be challenged to take an active part in the mission of the church. They see it is not just about "Jesus and me", but



Jesus, me and growing in our mission to serve the Body of Jesus in the world, especially where He, Jesus, needs to be served in the neediest.

Every one of us is called, if given the opportunity, to invite a friend, or an inactive family member, or a fellow student, or a co-worker, etc. to come to a Catholic weekend Mass.

All you have to do is invite. Let Jesus do the rest.

Father Pat



We used to have a ministry at BT called "Welcome Home". We are about to restart that ministry. It involved about six sessions. The person (or family) looking into returning to the Church could ask any question they wanted. All topics were covered. A priest attended at least one of the sessions.

The new couple in charge are Jesus & Carly, 352.857.7356 or 561.463.1079



On March 7th, Blessed Trinity's liturgical ministers - its Eucharistic ministers, sacristans, lectors, ushers, and choir members - gathered for mass followed by a general meeting, the first to be held since the pandemic.

Father Bill opened the meeting with a prayer from the Mass for Ministers of the Church and explained the origins of the word 'liturgy', a 'service in the name of or on behalf of the people.' Liturgical ministers, on behalf of the People of God, participate in the 'work of God' with Christ during the Mass. We explored each person of the Trinity's particular role in the liturgy, and how the Eucharist is the focal point, around which all the ministries should orient themselves.

After the teaching, the ministries gathered in various parts of the Hall to have a 25-minute meeting. I attended the Lector's meeting, at which we introduced ourselves and reviewed the procedures that should be followed.

At the conclusion, all the ministries gathered together for a short period of Adoration.

Based on feedback received, next year the ministries will be sent to various parts of the campus to hold their individual meetings to make it easier for participants to hear.



One Table

Michelle Hernandez

Aracelis Collado passionately and proudly belongs to both the English and Spanish communities at Blessed Trinity. So, when Father Pat asked for help to hold the Parish Picnic in March, she said yes, fiercely believing that with God all things are possible and that both communities would respond if asked.

Aracelis' trust in God comes from a place of deep faith, a result of a healing experience that had truly tested her. She was involved in a car accident that left her medically disabled after moving with her family to Ocala from New York. The accident left her unable to work and kept her at

home for two years. Trusting that God had a plan, she came back to church for the first time in twenty years. Aracelis attended mass in the English community for her kids and introduced herself to the Spanish community because it reminded her of her mom. That is when she was invited to join the 3-day Emmaus retreat.

In New York, Emmaus is widely celebrated and respected. Aracelis hoped that organizers would be able to accommodate her use of a walker. She explained that she had not been out of her house for two years but how important it was for her to attend. Aracelis wasn't confident about her capability to make it through the entire retreat, but not only did she finish, she walked out without using her walker! She said the pain was still there, of course, but everything changed after. Aracelis began serving in the Spanish community as the Head Usher and worked in the Hispanic office. Realizing serving one community wasn't enough, she picked up a shift every other Friday working in the church office. Aracelis served as a resource in blending the Decorating Committees from both communities.

"I always say, if you have time to serve the 'other side', do it!" She refuses to let her grandkids inherit a divided church. "My main goal for God is to change that, because I know God wants us together." Her motivation is deeply personal: her family includes Dominican, Puerto Rican, Mexican, and Chinese heritages.

Aracelis' plan for the picnic was simple, go to the community and ask personally. Little by little, across both communities, momentum built. A local grocery chain donated soda. A bakery in Tampa donated 150 individually wrapped cookies. Parishioners who couldn't give themselves, reached out to family members and neighbors. Aracelis had a Venezuelan parishioner who couldn't give anything but promised to find people who could donate yuca. She found 5 trays! This is why Aracelis was so confident that the picnic would be successful - because she believed in the community!

On the day of the picnic, three weeks after Aracelis said 'yes', there were tents from Italy, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and the United States. The tents were arranged in a single unbroken line that left no one standing alone. When a Venezuelan tent found itself short-handed, Aracelis turned to the volunteers at the Italian tent. "Would you mind serving Spanish food?" she asked. Without hesitation, they moved over.

As English-speaking parishioners dished out Venezuelan delicacies, the labels of "English" or "Spanish" lost their importance. To the people in line, it didn't matter who was holding the spoon; they just saw a fellow parishioner from Blessed Trinity. For Aracelis, this is a glimpse of the future she wants for her grandkids—a church where there are no "sides".

VIEW FROM THE CHOIR

For about fifteen years now my wife Elaine and I have been singing at Mass. First at our home church in Medina, NY, and now at Blessed Trinity, Ocala. Singing together for Jesus is a pillar of our marriage. There was a short break at the time we moved south and until the choir reformed at the end of the pandemic. The best time to hear us is at Sunday 7:10am Mass, or if the entire choir is assembled to perform some special music at one of the other Sunday Masses or special liturgies.

7:10 Mass is our niche. We have gotten used to getting up at 5:00am to make it to rehearsal by 6:40 so we can enrich the service for Jesus and our 7:10 crowd. We are very blessed to have this opportunity to serve the Lord. We know we are appreciated as the compliments and "thank yous" never end. It is truly a joy to be there.

If you ever sang in a choir in school or sang harmonies in a musical and you are like us, you would know it is thrilling to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Most of the time in the past fifteen years it has been only Elaine and I and the keyboardist. We are puzzled as to why this is usually the case. We love it when our friend Dandriene joins us.

Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm for an hour. We work hard learning new songs and hymns and we have a lot of fun together. The high point though is when we have learned the songs, and we get to sing them in church for you! I love to sing the bass harmonies; Elaine is an Alto and a much better musician than I am and keeps me on track. The Holy Spirit helps too. We have hoped and prayed that more would join us at 7:10. Ideally, we would have two people for each part: soprano, alto, tenor, and bass.

That would really thrill the congregation! But I can only imagine it. Please, join us in the choir. All the music that Colleen picks out is so good and the harmonies make those of us singing feel like we could fly sometimes! I cannot guarantee that you will fly, but I know your heart will soar if you come sing with us! Please consider adding the music ministry to your faith journey! If you play an instrument, bring that too! We can't wait to sign and make a joyful noise...with you! Music makes Mass more meaningful for us, you and everyone!

Rich Lovelace



From Trauma to Trust

Michelle Hernandez



Jennie Regalado's commitment to protecting and mentoring children is rooted in her own lived experience of navigating family separation at a young age. Raised by her devout Catholic grandparents for many years before eventually reuniting with her mother, Jennie understands firsthand the importance of stability and advocacy for vulnerable youth.

Jennie knew her vocation lay in working with children, though its direction evolved through profound personal and professional challenges. She initially sought to heal through nursing, but a tragic infant loss she witnessed shifted her perspective, leading her to seek systemic change through social work.

While she spent years on the front lines of child welfare, the weight of secondary trauma eventually signaled a need for a new approach. This led her to a group home for at-risk girls and their babies—where many of the young mothers were survivors of trafficking—and where she found deep fulfillment in providing a safe harbor for the vulnerable. Today, Jennie brings that lifetime of advocacy to her role as Director of Angels in Arms, where she focuses on the power of early intervention and creating the stable foundations every child deserves.

Jennie's transition to Angels in Arms was solidified the moment she stepped into a classroom to help a child who had become completely overwhelmed. As a certified practitioner in Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), she recognized that when a child was kicking a bookshelf or melting down on the floor, his or her "alarm system" was simply stuck on high alert.

To build on the teachers' existing efforts, Jennie used those high-stress moments as a living classroom. She sat on the floor and met the children in their distress—teaching them how to "blow bubbles" to slow their heart rate or use finger-tracing to find their breath. As the staff watched her model these techniques, they saw the children move from a state of total frustration back to a sense of calm.

Then, in a voice that radiates with warmth and peace, "Ms. Jennie" gets the children to explain to her what they were feeling. "Right now, they can learn that when I talk to adults that I trust and I know are safe, they listen to me and there's that respect regardless of how little I am. They care enough to listen to me. That really gains that ability for children to recognize that adults can be trusted, other people can be trusted with the pieces of your heart that are hurting, and we'll work on it together."

Teachers began approaching her to learn how they could integrate these coping skills into their own daily classroom routines. Jennie even extended this support to the families, sending parents practical tools to help their children practice self-regulation at home. For Jennie, these have been "sweet" moments and quiet successes that have confirmed that her new home at Angels in Arms is the perfect place to continue shepherding children towards healthy adulthood.



SOUP KITCHEN UPDATE

Jason Halstead



For over 30 years, Brother's Keeper has operated a Soup Kitchen in the Interfaith complex. We currently serve an average of 153 lunches every day, 365 days a year. That's 55,845 meals every year! We could not do this good work without the service and leadership of Sr. Concepta and the hard work of our many dedicated volunteers. We are also very grateful to the many generous donors who support us with the gifts of prayer, food, and financial assistance.

For the past few years, we have been planning to build a new, standalone Soup Kitchen. We are excited to share an important update on the progress of the Brother's Keeper Soup Kitchen project. After careful planning, discussions, and evaluation of costs, logistics, and long-term impact, we are moving forward with a new plan.

The updated plan is to build the soup kitchen in a smaller warehouse located at the current Brother's Keeper Thrift Store building. Meals will be cooked and prepared daily at this location and then delivered to Interfaith's Engagement Center, where they will be served to those in need. This plan expands our ability to serve not just one location, but potentially many locations throughout our community.

In addition to Interfaith, this new kitchen will allow us to deliver meals to other local non-profits and areas of need, including organizations such as Saving Mercy's Mercy Village, Wear Gloves Dignity House and other locations where groups of people need access to healthy food. This mobile approach will also allow us to respond to rural areas and communities affected by hurricanes or other disasters or emergencies.

This plan allows us to serve more people and be better stewards of resources. There are several major advantages to this new approach:

- The new soup kitchen will be larger and include all new equipment, which will improve our ability to store, prepare, and serve food.
- The renovation project will cost less than building a new standalone kitchen.
- The project will take less time to complete.
- Increased flexibility and mobility to serve multiple locations
- Allows us to serve our target population — and potentially more people
- Condense all Brother's Keeper's ministries under one roof to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and share resources.
- The new commercial kitchen will be conducive to vocational training programs and other partnerships designed to help clients with job training and improved financial stability.

We have filed permits with the City of Ocala for renovation of the warehouse into a commercial kitchen and are awaiting their feedback and approval before we can solicit bids from contractors. We hope to get started with construction this summer!

We believe this new plan will allow Brother's Keeper to expand our mission, serve more people, and respond to needs throughout our community in a flexible and practical way. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we take these next steps. There is still much to be done, but we are excited about the direction this project is heading and the lives that will be impacted through this ministry.



Built on Grace:

Saving Mercy's Vision for a Forever Village
Michelle Hernandez

The seeds of Saving Mercy that were planted in 2016 as a ministry of Blessed Trinity Church have grown and blossomed into something far greater than the original proponents could have imagined at the time. Ten fully furnished duplexes, occupied since December 2025, and an almost complete 59-unit apartment complex, stand in the place of the old Motor Inn and RV Park that originally occupied the land. Because of a significant manufacturing delay, the apartment complex that should have opened with the duplexes, will now likely open in late 2026.



The vision has evolved over the years, shaped by partnerships with Interfaith, the City of Ocala, and Carrfour Supportive Housing, and altered by challenges finding resources and funding. Steve Farrell and his wife, Fran Marino, were intimately involved with the project from the start and were honored by Saving Mercy's Board of Directors at a short ceremony on April 24th. Standing between the row of duplexes and the unfinished apartments, Steve remarked on the difficulties they encountered. "As many a time as this ship sank, it just didn't hit bottom. By the grace of God, we've got the job done and I'm so proud of this project. I'm so proud of the people who are moving in here."

Just since December, 23 residents have been served, and Saving Mercy has already had its first success story! A couple who had been living outside in a tent moved into a duplex unit and both secured jobs quickly. Within three months, they had moved out to their own apartment. The remaining 21 residents, whose ages range from 27 to 81, were either chronically homeless or had long histories of housing instability, according to Executive Director Penny Beehler.

One resident, a Blessed Trinity parishioner named Maria, lived out of her car for two years before obtaining a referral that allowed her to move in. Speaking of her new home and the staff, she said, "They are very nice places, very nice people. I'm blessed!"

Another resident, Codie, was on the streets for 13 years and tried to explain the difficulty of reintegrating into a traditional home. "It's so weird when you have no security your entire life, you know? You don't know what to do with yourself. They should give you a class after you come out of homelessness, to retrain you. Like, flush the toilet. Turn the lights off. 'I'm ok.' I have to repeat that to myself all the time. Cause you are constantly in survival mode; you don't know how to relax. But I'm learning now. It's taken quite a bit of time."

"The solution to chronic homelessness is being able to **maintain** housing. The supportive environment here allows them to maintain," Penny explained. Each resident is assigned a case worker who helps with budgeting and navigating services for mental or physical health. It is not a one-size-fits-all solution; it is tailored to the individual.

Penny isn't waiting for the construction to be finished to line up new residents. Working in partnership with Carrfour, Saving Mercy is already gathering paperwork and conducting interviews so that as soon as the building is officially cleared for move-in, residents can enter immediately.

That is when Phase 2 of the project will officially kick off. "The next step is going to be another building in the back of the property," Penny said. Plans have been submitted to the city and approved for a 54-unit apartment building featuring efficiencies, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom units. "Our hope is to be able to house families with children!"

With God's grace, and the continued support of the Ocala community, that hope will become reality.

Brother's Keeper Hoedown Dinner & Golf Tournament:

Supporting our Community in Need



La Guadalupe
Medical & Dental
Clinic



Jason Halstead

Each year, the Brother's Keeper Hoedown Dinner and Golf Tournament brings our community together for an evening of fellowship, generosity, and mission. This special event raises critical funds to support the outreach ministries that serve the poor and vulnerable in Marion County.

Funds raised through the Hoedown and Golf Tournament support several organizations that serve those most in need in our community, including:

- **Brother's Keeper** – providing food, clothing, and emergency assistance to individuals and families in crisis.
- **Project Hope** – providing fully furnished apartments for mothers transitioning out of homelessness for up to 24 months, along with life skills training, mentoring, and clinical services.
- **Saving Mercy** – a faith-based organization that helps families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness become self-sufficient.
- **La Guadalupe Medical & Dental Clinic** – providing free medical and dental care to uninsured individuals in Marion County with limited income.

These ministries work together to address not just immediate needs like food and shelter, but also long-term needs such as housing, healthcare, and self-sufficiency.

The Hoedown Dinner is more than just a fundraiser — it is a celebration of what our community can accomplish when we come together to serve others. The evening includes a cocktail hour, silent auction, dinner, presentation, and live music and dancing, making it a joyful night in support of a meaningful mission.

We are especially grateful for the generous support of our presenting sponsor, Frank Stronach, whose continued support has helped make this event possible for many years. Over the past decade, the Brother's Keeper Golf Tournaments and Hoedowns have raised more than **\$940,000** to support these ministries and the people they serve.

In 2026, Club Adena was purchased by Oculus R Golf Partners, an investor consortium led by Craig and Elizabeth Phillips and renamed IronCrest and The Club at Iron Lake. We are very excited to continue this generous legacy with our new hosts and to see all their exciting plans for this unique and beautiful property!

Thank you!

Because of the generosity of sponsors, donors, volunteers, and attendees, Brother's Keeper and its partner ministries are able to continue serving those most in need in our community with dignity, compassion, and hope.



This year's event raised \$78,000, which puts the total for all fundraisers supported by Frank Stronach to \$1,018,000!



Costa Rican church that will be rebuilt by CMT



Costa Rican church that will be rebuilt by CMT



CMT THE MISSION STARTS HERE

PHIL BRESCIA

Every year, something begins long before a plane ever leaves the ground.

In September, the Covenant Mission Team starts forming—not just a group, but a community. We place an ad in the bulletin, show up at the Trinity High School service fair, and take our turn as ministry of the week. From there, something simple begins to grow. What starts as a handful of individuals becomes a team—one built not just on interest, but on shared effort, service, and purpose.

Our mission trip doesn't happen until June. That might seem like a long runway, but it's intentional. It gives us time to do the real work—the kind that shapes people before they ever set foot in another country. Fundraising is part of it, yes. But more importantly, it's about building a team that works together. A team that shows up.

Because the truth is, we don't want cost to be the barrier. Trip eligibility isn't based on who can afford it—it's based on service and commitment. Throughout the year, we serve right here at home. We help Brother's Keeper with Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives, organizing and packaging food bags for families in need. We visit the juvenile detention center at Christmas—singing carols, handing out blessing bags, and reminding those young men that they are not forgotten.

We fundraise through events like the Christmas poinsettia sale, the Lenten fish fry, and a letter-writing campaign. But if we're being honest, the most powerful part of our fundraising is something we never plan.

It's you.

Year after year, members of our community step forward—offering time, talent, and treasure. Year after year, people who aren't on the team still show up at different times to help and serve. And it's that quiet generosity that has made everything possible. Churches have been renovated. Homes have been repaired. Communities across Central America and the Caribbean have been served—not just by our

team, but by an entire parish standing behind it.

Where we go each year isn't mapped out years in advance. It starts with relationships. Sometimes a community invites us back. Sometimes someone here in Ocala mentions a need. From there, we begin a process—planning logistics, confirming safety, and organizing materials. And sometimes, despite our best efforts, a trip doesn't happen. Not every door opens. But when it does, we walk through it.

This year, that door leads us to Pilón, Costa Rica. Pilón is a small farming village, home to sharecroppers and refugees from Nicaragua—many of whom fled in search of religious freedom. At the center of that village is a church that has been slowly consumed by termites. Years ago, our team was supposed to work on it. Plans changed that year, and we worked somewhere else. Unfortunately, with the damage it has sustained, this building can no longer be saved. It has to be rebuilt. This is a new opportunity for our team.

We've renovated churches before—but we've never built one from the foundation up. And we're doing it with a team of about 20 volunteers—high school students and adults—over the course of one week. That's the reality. We can't do it alone. We'll need local carpenters, welders, and materials. It will be the most challenging project we've ever taken on. But the purpose is clear: to give a displaced community a place to worship, to receive the sacraments, and to live their faith freely.

And that's where you come in. If you feel called to be part of this, we invite you to support the mission through prayer. If you are financially able, we welcome donations. Every dollar given goes directly toward rebuilding that church. Your contribution becomes part of something tangible—something that will stand long after we leave. And if something in you says, I want to do more than give—then pay attention this September. Come to a meeting. Step into the process.

Because what starts as a trip... often becomes something much more. It becomes a calling.

— “ —

My experience on the trip has been incredibly meaningful, allowing me to grow in my faith and realize that no matter where we are, at home or far away, we are all serving and loving the same God. It's a powerful reminder that faith connects us across cultures, and even the simplest acts of service can bring joy to others and make it all worth it.

Matthew Miller, CMT member

— ” —

Trinity Triangle
Blessed Trinity Parish
5 SE 17th St
Ocala, FL 34471

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
OCALA, FL
PERMIT #34

FREE CREDIT REPAIR

BEFORE YOU APPLY.

WE'RE NOT JUST LENDERS — WE SOLVE PROBLEMS TO
GET YOU MORTGAGE-READY
LET'S BUILD YOUR APPROVAL PATH TOGETHER.
CALL TODAY 352-755-6343



[HTTPS://FOCUSMORTGAGESOLUTIONS.NET](https://focusmortgagesolutions.net)
3201 SW 34th AVENUE, SUITE 104 OCALA, FL 34474



NMLS ID 2106522

DISCLOSURE: FREE CREDIT REPAIR OFFERED WITH NO OBLIGATION. RESULTS VARY. NO GUARANTEE OF SCORE IMPROVEMENT.

FREE CREDIT REPAIR

THE FIRST STEP TO YOUR NEW HOME.

HELPING FAMILIES ONE HOME AT A TIME - WE FIX CREDIT,
THEN BUILD YOUR HOME.

YOU COULD BE NEXT - CALL NOW TO GET STARTED
352-675-3144



JENHOME.NET



3201 SW 34th AVENUE, SUITE 104 OCALA, FL 34474

Castle Carpets & Interiors

Serving Ocala Since 1991

Carpet • Ceramic • Wood • Laminate
Vinyl • Blinds • Shutters



Authorized Retailer

Bob & Janice Ferguson

6715 SW Hwy 200, Ocala, FL 34476
5 miles west of I-75 on Hwy 200

(352) 854-3939

castlecarpets@aol.com

www.CastleCarpetsandInteriors.com

Philippians 4:13



600 S. Magnolia Ave. • Ocala, FL 34471

352-629-0736 • Fax 352-732-0311

www.concordprintocala.com

service@concordprintocala.com



DeLUCA
FRANK & ANGELA DELUCA

**"DeLuca Makes
The Difference"**

Giveback@DeLucaDifference.com

DeLucaDifference.com

THE VILLAGE SLEEP LAB & BREATHING CENTER

ACCREDITED BY THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF SLEEP MEDICINE



Juan Albino, MD

Board Certified in Sleep & Pulmonary Medicine

352-751-4955

Fax 888-716-2004

www.villagesleeplab.com

Next to the Villages Regional Hospital



Reliable Cloud Based
Business Phone Systems

(352) 509-5278
COLTECHVOICE.COM

AndrewsLemek

Tax Services



Daniel B. Andrews, C.P.A.
Joyce Lemek, E. A.

200 SE 17th St., Ocala, Florida 34471

Ph: 352.351.8833 Fax: 352.352.2790

www.andrewslemek.com

Lawrence J. Sutton, D.D.S., P.A.

Comprehensive Dentistry

(352) 620-0094



2825 S.E. 17th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

www.suttontdentistry.com

Lifetime Parishioner