



Who Are We?

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) Retreat and Spirituality Center offers a sacred place of peace and tranquility, where one can develop a closer relationship with God. We are located in Venice, Florida, one-hour south of Tampa, along the beautiful Myakka River. Walking paths, prayer decks, and quiet seating areas located under grand Florida oaks and palm trees provide all who visit a place to connect with God in meditation and reflection.

Established over 25 years ago, as part of the Diocese of Venice, our 300-acre campus includes the St. Joseph Chapel, Conference Center, Dining Hall, and four villa residences. The villas are equipped with private bedroom and ensuite bath, as well as a common living room and kitchenette.



Oblates of the Virgin Mary

OLPH is staffed by the Oblates of the Virgin Mary (OMV), whose essential mission and ministry is to provide retreats and spiritual direction inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius.

“Even if I should fall a thousand times a day, a thousand times I will get up again and say *Nunc Cœpi* – Now I begin.” These words spoken by the founder, Venerable Pio Bruno Lanteri (1759-1830), capture the spirit and mission of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary. Father Lanteri formed the Oblates to be both contemplatives and apostles, men of study, prayer, and compassionate pastors. Today, serving in ten countries around the world, the Oblates bring hope for a new beginning.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat and Spirituality Center

Directed Retreats

“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.”
Mark 6:31a

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Why do a Directed Retreat?

On occasion, we may find ourselves discerning something in our lives. Perhaps it is a career change or job loss, getting married, losing a loved one, or dealing with a family illness. Or perhaps you may just need a small amount of time away from the complexities of the world - a moment of peace to reconnect spiritually. A retreat refreshes and revitalizes the soul by providing devoted time spent in prayer and contemplation, under the guidance of a spiritual director.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) Retreat and Spirituality Center, located in Venice, Florida, offers all people of Christian faith an amazing opportunity to enrich their spiritual lives. At OLPH our directed retreats are individualized. They are adapted to those in all stages of their faith journey and tailored depending on what you are seeking, the desires of your heart, and where the Lord is leading you.

Desert Day

Don't have an extensive amount of available time? A 1-Day (Desert Day) retreat provides a quiet day for pilgrims looking to spend time with the Lord and reflect upon their life and their relationship with God. These retreats include up to two meetings with a priest spiritual director and availability of Mass and Confession. The retreat commences in the afternoon and concludes after lunch the following day. Please contact us directly to schedule a Desert Day.

3, 5, and 7-Night Retreats

OLPH offers personalized 3, 5, and 7-Night retreats. Retreats are structured in the Ignatian style and include spiritual direction by a priest, contemplation, and silence. Opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and daily Mass are available.

The retreat commences in the afternoon on the day of arrival with an initial meeting with a priest spiritual director. Scripture and reading assignments, targeted with your needs in mind, are provided over the course of the retreat. Your retreat concludes after lunch on the final day. All meals and a private room are included in the fee. Available dates are published on our website.



30-Day Retreat

An opportunity for making the full 30-day Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius retreat is provided for those who wish to make an extended month-long silent retreat. You will meet with an experienced priest spiritual director daily who provides a series of presentations and discussions designed to assist you with your prayer, reflection, and spiritual journey. The retreat includes daily Mass and opportunities for Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration.

OLPH offers this retreat twice annually, from mid-January to mid-February and in the month of June. The duration of the retreat is 30 days, excluding travel days. A private room and all meals are provided. Prospective retreatants must complete an application before this retreat can be booked. Space is limited. Please contact us directly to further discuss reserving your 30-Day retreat.