



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912 | P 239-561-2245 | F 239-561-3713 | www.johnxxiii.net

November 17, 2019

A SMALL *Mustard Seed* WITH A *Fruitful* HARVEST

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

- MATTHEW 13:31



by: **Mitchell Kalpakgian** - Catholic Exchange

Hans Christian Andersen's children's story "Something" especially reveals the mysterious, fruitful nature of goodness in its purest form — a simple act of kindness, a humble good deed, a small favor for a poor old woman with no motive of recognition or reward, and a work of mercy. In the story four of the five brothers all have worldly ambitions to leave behind a legacy of fame and distinction as evidence of their prosperous rise to success and honor that will distinguish them as "Something" rather than a Nobody. In their rivalry to exceed each other's accomplishments and gain prestigious recognition for their expertise, wealth, and social status, the four enterprising, aspiring younger brothers who strive for greatness assume airs of prideful superiority that mock their oldest brother's humble work of brick maker.

The second brother scorns the oldest brother's honest manual labor as beneath his own dignity: "Something very little, though," he replies sarcastically. "Why it is as good as nothing! Better be a mason, as I intend to be." In the

second brother's eyes, a mason's expertise surpasses the manual labor of his older brother and improves his social and economic position. The third brother, contemptuous of the lowly rank of a mason, boasts that he will claim a higher profession and gain the title of an architect. He strives to rise higher in life than his two older brothers and congratulates himself for his distinguished career and respectable profession that put to shame the lowly work of the older brothers.

The fourth son, also fiercely competitive and not to be outdone by his older brothers, announces he will be the greatest of artists, a renowned genius, and a recognized innovator and inventor, thus separating the distance between his towering greatness and their meager lowliness. The fifth son, determined to be the most accomplished of the brothers and at the pinnacle of fashionable society, makes invidious comparisons between his esteemed rank and the unimpressive achievement of all his mediocre brothers. In his position

Continued on Page 3

November 17, 2019

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses:

Monday-Saturday, 8:00am
Rosary-7:20am (Mon.-Sat.)
followed by Divine Mercy

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 8:00am, 4:00pm
Vietnamese Mass 8:00pm
Sunday 7:15am, 9:15am
and 11:15am
Spanish Mass: 1:30pm every
Sunday

Reconciliation:

Saturday 8:30-9:00am

First Friday Adoration:

Friday 8:30-9:00am

Pastor

Rev. Robert Tabbert

Parochial Vicars

Fr. Saji Ellickal M.C.B.S.

frsaji@johnxxiii.net

Fr. Lawrence M. Nguyen

frlawrence@johnxxiii.net

Deacons

Deacon Rich Klish

DeaconRich@johnxxiii.net

Deacon Nick Jurasevich

njurasevich@gmail.com

Deacon Francis Head

fdhead@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday,
8:00am-Noon | 1:00-4:00pm
239-561-2245
239-561-3713 (Fax)

MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

A priest is on call 7 days a week,
24hrs a day for these hospitals:
Health Park - St. Columbkille

Church 239-489-3973

Lee Memorial - St. Francis

Xavier Church 239-334-2161

Gulf Coast - St. John XXIII

239-561-2245

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT:

You are encouraged to receive
the Sacrament of the Sick before
being admitted to a facility.

St. Columbkille - Hope Hospice

239-489-3973

9470 Health Park Circle,

Ft. Myers, FL

St. Raphael - Lehigh Acres

Health & Rehab Center

239-369-2194

1550 Lee Blvd, Lehigh Acres, FL

Hope Hospice 239-369-1831

1201 Wings Way, Lehigh Acres, FL

St. Leo - Hope Hospice

239-992-0901

27200 Imperial Pkwy,

Bonita Springs, FL

St. Vincent de Paul - Select

2073 Lafayette St. Ft. Myers

239-693-0818

The Mission of St. John XXIII Catholic Church is to actively engage all those who desire to more fully accept and live out the message of Christ, welcoming and respecting all people regardless of background, history, race or color, as we strive to nurture spiritual growth and personal holiness on our journey to become more responsible stewards of God's gifts.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 8:00 AM † Al Pantuso by Sara Noel
- 4:00 PM † Brian Roehm by Skip & Joan Collins
- 8:00 PM † Teresa - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 7:15 AM † Ron Rogers by Rita
- 9:15 AM † John Cavallo, Jr. by Michelle Snyder
- 11:15 AM † Theresa Hudson by her husband, Bert
- 1:30 PM † Pedro Lopez & Jacinto Salazar by Jessica Lopez

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 8:00 AM † David Capriotti by Nancy Capriotti

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 8:00 AM ♥/† Rogers & Podolak Families by Rita

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 8:00 AM † Mary Gionet by Norman

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 8:00 AM † Jean Klimas by Bonnie Okoren

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 8:00 AM † Patrick DeLuca by The Lexington Country Club

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 8:00 AM † Marcelo Factora by his family
- 4:00 PM † Claire & Richard Pilon by Jill & Ken Pilon
- 8:00 PM † Teresa - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 7:15 AM † Grace Zinzi by John Zinzi
- 9:15 AM † Norm Sanders by The St. John XXIII Pastoral Team
- 11:15 AM † Rose, Zeke & Nita Elkin by their family
- 1:30 PM - Spanish Mass

THE 2020 JANUARY - JUNE MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN

To ensure availability throughout the year, we must limit requests for the English speaking Masses to no more than (2) weekend Masses and (2) weekday Masses for the entire year. Other options will remain available: Tabernacle Candle \$15 per week, Eucharistic Host \$15 per week.

NOVEMBER 24, 2019 - READINGS

- 1ST READING 2 SM 5:1-3
- 2ND READING COL 1:12-20
- GOSPEL LK 23:35-43

Low Gluten
HOSTS

If you are interested in receiving **LOW GLUTEN** hosts at Mass, then please go to the Sacristy before Mass starts to make your request with a Sacristan.

**Pastoral Team
Business Manager**

Holly Atkins

holly@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

**Maintenance
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• **Dave Mraz**

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239-561-7499

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239-561-2245

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Cynthia Conzatti

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PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

Parish Life Center

Coordinator

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ivette@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

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& Young Adult Ministry

Beth Benham

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239-561-3022

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& Young Adult Ministry

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239-561-7499

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239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

Mustard Seed CONTINUED

without peer in his expertise, he will reach perfection and expose the failures and shortcomings of his brothers' crafts as he boasts "that will be something." The idea of "Something," then, is to compete, succeed, and win the first prize and bask in the glory of worldly success while depreciating the skill, profession, knowledge, wealth, fame, or accomplishments of other laborers and reduce them to virtually nothing.

During his lifetime the humble brick maker lived a simple life and earned a modest living, never competing to win the first prize of "Something." Generously donating several bricks and many broken ones to Mother Margaret, a poor and lonely old woman, he helps her maintain a lowly dwelling of a home. The common brick maker dies as an obscure man without a great reputation or noteworthy acclaim, soon followed to the grave by the second, third, and fourth brother who all glorify their worldly ambitions of mason, architect, inventor, and genius. After the youngest brother, the critic, dies, he finds himself at the gates of heaven next to Mother Margaret. "And how did you leave the world?" the critic inquires, hoping to boast of his great name.

The old woman did not depart from this life as a famous celebrity or an image of success. Mother Margaret recalls the moment of her death when she narrates the episode of an ice skating party where the entire village was on the lake enjoying their winter sport. Noticing in the sky the approach of an impending storm threatening to melt the ice, Margaret yells to warn the skaters, but no one hears her saving words. In a state of desperate panic and fear Mother Margaret thinks of another plan to get their attention: "I could set fire to my bed. Better let my house be burned to the ground than that so many should miserably perish." Alerting the skaters by setting fire to her straw, Margaret saves them from falling in the ice and drowning in the lake. Dying herself from the fire, Margaret is welcomed into heaven, and the blade of straw from her bed is converted into dazzling gold—the treasure and splendor of her good deed.

The angel asks the critic what he brought with him to heaven, reprimanding the fifth brother: "Truly, I know that thou hast done nothing, not even made bricks." As the angel denies the critic admission into heaven, Mother Margaret pleads for him, arguing that the critic's oldest brother's kindness extended her long life and preserved her long enough to save all who would have perished when the ice cracked. Her shelter, made from the fragments of bricks, blessed her with a ripe old age. Her long life, in turn, allowed her to save the townspeople. Therefore, her eternal gratitude to the brick maker moves her to ask for mercy for the critic who did nothing. The oldest son's generosity to the old woman—his love of goodness for its own sake—gave long life to Margaret, who in turn saved the whole town from drowning and who won heaven for the youngest brother who brings no brick or no straw with him after death. No good deeds follow the critic to justify his entrance into heavenly life. The charitable heart of the brick maker who appeared to be useless and seemed "nothing" to his brothers and his kindness that went unrecognized by the world prove themselves invaluable spiritual treasure, truly "something."

The kindness of the oldest brother who offered bricks to Mother Margaret diffused, disseminated, and communicated goodness to many others through the old woman's warning to the skaters. Mother Margaret's burning of her bed that lured the skaters of the breaking ice saved countless lives. In both cases the goodness of the brick maker and the old woman proceeded from the love of virtue for its own sake which then proliferated, reproduced, and overflowed into many other lives. Their goodness was practical, beneficial, and useful beyond limit—an incalculable gift, blessing, and treasure. The effects and aftereffects of goodness—no matter how small, hidden, or humble—can never be underestimated or foreseen. They transcend measurement and quantification and all worldly standards.

As Cardinal Newman writes in *The Idea of a University*, the good is always useful and powerfully prolific: "Good is not only good, but reproductive of good; this is one of its attributes; nothing is excellent, beautiful, perfect, desirable for its own sake, but it overflows, and spreads the likeness of itself all around it."

TIME TO Grow IN FAITH

*Isn't it time?
 Isn't it the perfect time?
 To grow?
 Why do we keep playing "adult"
 while still being infants inside?
 And when the trial comes,
 you don't know how to defend yourself.
 Grow up!
 But how?
 Go to God....like a little child.
 Let him teach you and make you strong.
 Let him mold your character.
 Let him show you the reasons why.
 Let him make you like His Son.
 Trust in God's love for you....as if you were
 a child.
 For you are His.
 Think about it. You are God's child.
 Let this make you bold and confident,
 no matter what you face every day.
 Then go back to Him again.
 Let Him hold you tight.
 His love gives you rest.
 Restore your courage and strength
 in the sweet embrace of Christ!*

www.prayerforanxiety.com

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally or spiritually, especially:

Elaine Quan
Ryan Novajasky
Lynne Haughey
Carol Clausen
Marlene LaRose
Erika Arquilla Hlavacek
Jeff Hlavacek
Bernadette Frammarino
Antoinette Bosco
Gary Neubauer
Jan Brinich
Curtis Atkins
Alec Dominski
Joanne Donches
Arlene Brummer
Sally Stobb

Walter & Jeanne Stobb
Peggy Stobb
Tony Stobb
Alex Walser
Martha Solon
Eileen Brahner
Jennifer Miller
Linda Quinn
Ann Carpenter
Lonny Hill
Regina Cugini
Robert Mogel
Connie Roessler
Sondra Watson
Samantha Thorpe
Kenneth Brown

These names are kept in the bulletin for one month. If you would like continual prayer, please add your name to the prayer book in the Narthex.

The best way to ensure your loved ones are consistently prayed for within our greater E-Prayer Community - email Betsy Engelbrecht at e-prayer@popejohn23.net

Their names will be circulated to an ever-growing list of people who will pray for them by name!

Ways to Memorialize

For requests to memorialize a loved one, you may call or stop in our Parish office.

Prayers for Eternal Life

*Life is changed, not ended.
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord!*

Deceased Parishioners of St. John XXIII



Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Baby Luke**
 Requested by: **Andrea**



Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **Baby Luke**
 Requested by: **his family**





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Calendar

Saturday, November 16

- Parish Survey Conducted at all Masses
- Thanksgiving Food Collection
- Vigil Mass - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass - 8pm



Sunday, November 17

- Parish Survey Conducted at all Masses
- Thanksgiving Food Collection
- Masses/Hospitality: 7:15, 9:15 & 11:15am
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Session: St. Martha & St. Mary - 10:15am
- Faith Formation Classes K - 3: Classrooms - 10:30am
- Hispanic Choir: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 11am
- New Family Orientation: Chapel - 12:30pm
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm
- Youth Mass: Chapel - 4pm
- Confirmation Year 1 & 2: Main Hall/Classrooms - 5pm

Monday, November 18

- Men's Gospel Forum: St. Martha & St. Mary - 7am
- Walking with Purpose Bible Study: Main Hall - 10am
- Craftie Ladies: Villas - 1pm
- Women's Guild: St. Martha & St. Mary - 6:30pm

Tuesday, November 19

- Opening the Word: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 9am
- Respect Life Meeting: St. Elizabeth - 9am & 6:30pm
- PLC Operating Committee: St. Martha & St. Mary - 9:30am
- Bereavement: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Spanish Rosary: Cry Room - 6pm
- Gifts of Magi: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 6:30pm
- AA Meeting St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

Wednesday, November 20

- Adoration Chapel open until 6pm
- Sacrament Preparation: Main Hall/Classrooms - 6pm
- Middle School Youth Group: Outside - 6pm

Thursday, November 21

- Men's Ministry: Main Hall - 6:30pm
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) St. Martha & St. Mary - 6:30pm

Friday, November 22



Saturday, November 23

- Blood Pressure Check by the Nurses after all Masses
- Prayer Walk/Abortion Clinic: 3900 Broadway - 9:15am
- Vigil Mass - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass - 8pm



Sunday, November 24

- Blood Pressure Check by the Nurses after all Masses
- Masses: 7:15, 9:15 & 11:15am
- Hispanic Choir: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 11am
- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Session: St. Martha & St. Mary - 10:15am
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm
- Vietnamese Thanksgiving Celebration: Main Hall - 6pm



WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Randy & Kathryn Hand
- Henoc Rodriguez
- Conrad & Joanne Kogovsek
- Brian & Regina Reed
- Matthew & Julie Sanders
- John Keating

Those who are new to our Parish this year, and those who've been coming for years without being registered, we need your help in staying organized and planning for our future needs. Having an accurate database of our parishioners will help us know where and how we need to grow. Thank you to everyone who registered with our Parish. If you have not received a welcome letter, please call the Parish Office to confirm your registration. All new parishioners, and those interested in registering in our Parish, are invited to attend **The New Parishioner Orientation this Sunday, November 17th, 2019 at 12:30pm**

This is your opportunity to become informed and active members of the parish and participate in our various ministries. Registering at St. John XXIII is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community. Please let the parish office know your email address OR you can even update it on the Parish website! www.johnxxiii.net

Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, Baptisms or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating that they are parishioners. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to stewardship of time, talent and treasure. One means of verifying participation is through the use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket.

PRAYERS FOR

Our Military Personnel

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| PFC Bryan Bard | 2nd Lt. Kristen Thompson |
| Sean Ball | Christian Troutner, US Navy |
| Major Bart Boma | Alex Zizzo, US Navy Medic |
| Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove | PFC Jordan Feil, USA |
| Sgt. Phil Dellibovi | Sgt. Hayden Linde, FLARNG |
| Staff Sgt. Chris Dominski | Aaron Crump, USCG |
| CPT Andrew Dugan, Spec. Forces | Sgt. Nathaniel Broemmel |
| Major Andrew Duguay | Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo |
| Sgt. Jared Gaudet | Col. Scott C. Woodward |
| Tech Sgt Jeffrey K. Green | Private Nicholas Loeb, ARNG |
| 1st Lt. Kellyn Hall | Andrew Hawkinson, USN |
| Andrew Herman | Cavalry Scout Specialist, |
| 1st Lt. Paige Hortman | Ryan Silva, Army |
| Sgt. Kathleen Hudepohl | 2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC |
| PFC Michael P Hughes | Jared Broemmel, US Navy |
| SPC Michael Jednak | Army 2nd Lieutenant Edward |
| PFC Andrew Kanopkh | Hudson Tillinghast IV |
| Michael Klem | Jethro Ignacio, US Air Force |
| Capt. Bradley D. Laux | 1st Lt. Christopher Dryhurst, |
| Capt. Jacob Mundo, US Army | US Air Force |
| SSGT Anthony Padula | Com. Craig Fowler, USN |
| LCP James Palenik | Eric Sanchez, US Air Force |
| Master SGT Peter Parison | 1st Lt. Colin Snook, 82nd ABN |
| Sgt. Justin Pingicer, Army | Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army |
| Lt. Col. Brady Sexton | 82nd ABN |



Faith Formation

Contact **Chris Biel** | 561-7499 | chrisdre@johnxxiii.net

Mark your calendars for Advent Wreath Making Family Event being held on Sunday, December 1st, following the 11:15am Mass. See page 15 of the bulletin for more details.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE:

November

WEDNESDAY FAITH FORMATION CLASSES:

- **11/20:** NO CLASSES - Sacrament Preparation Year II students and parents 6pm-7:15pm
- **11/27:** NO CLASSES - Thanksgiving Break

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION CLASSES:

- **11/17:** Faith Formation
- **11/24:** NO CLASSES - Thanksgiving Break



SACRAMENT PREPARATION:

BAPTISM: Congratulations on your decision to baptize your child! At St. John XXIII, we are happy to help your family prepare for the celebration. Baptisms are offered for registered members of Saint John XXIII and are scheduled only after the preparation process is completed by the parents. Please do not make arrangements for family members until you have actually received a date. Contact the office at (239) 561-2245 for more information or to begin the process.

FIRST COMMUNION: (also called First Eucharist and First Reconciliation) Children in first grade or above, who have expressed a desire and willingness and are attending Mass, are welcome to begin the two year process of preparing for these Sacraments. The first year consists of regular attendance at Faith Formation classes or through a Diocesan Catholic school. (Either St. Francis Xavier or St. Andrew) The second year continues those classes, but also adds in direct Sacramental Preparation (Reconciliation and Communion) sessions. Please contact Chris at 561-7499 for more information or to begin the process. Parents who home school their children must contact the office during Year I.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation is a two year process that begins at the start of 9th Grade and is celebrated in the Fall of 11th grade. (Older teens are certainly welcome!). Each year consists of Faith Formation through the parish Youth Group or a Diocesan Catholic school (Bishop Verot) as well as scheduled Confirmation classes and a retreat. Please note: Students from Bishop Verot must register and attend the preparation classes at the beginning of 9th grade. If you are entering the 9th grade or would like more information on our program, contact Chris at (239) 561-7499 to begin the process.

ADULT FAITH

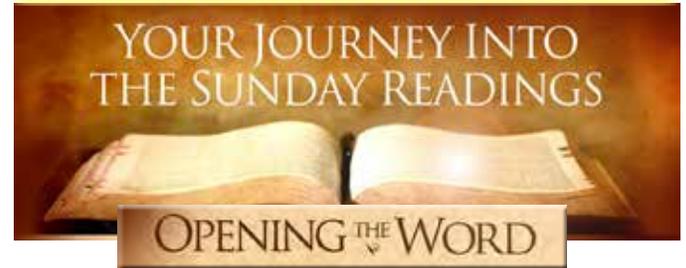
Education

All Are Invited to Opening The Word!

Opening the Word is a weekly Bible Study exploring the upcoming Sunday Readings. All are Welcome!

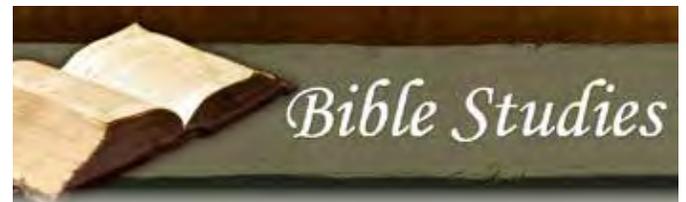
When? Tuesday Mornings from **9am-10am** in The Parish Life Center, rooms St. Bernadette & St. Michael.

Next Session: Tuesday, November 19



We will use the parish resource, Formed.org to prepare for the upcoming Sunday readings.

To register go to <https://johnxxiii.formed.org/> and follow the instructions to sign in and view Catholic content 24/7. We will watch a short video (7-10 minutes), share what the readings say to us, and discuss how we can apply them to our lives.



Acts - The Spread of the Kingdom Bible Study:

NEW: NOVEMBER 26 & DECEMBER 3

Tuesday evenings: 6:30pm - 8pm in Parish Life Center, rooms St. Bernadette & St. Michael

REGISTER ONLINE:

www.ascensionpress.com

Contact **Edith Trafford:** lancith@aol.com

Save the Upcoming Dates:

Acts - Bible Study:

JANUARY 7 - MARCH 10

Tuesday evenings: 6:30pm - 8pm in Parish Life Center, rooms St. Bernadette & St. Michael

Word on Fire - Bishop Robert Baron:

JANUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 17

Monday afternoons: 1:30pm - 3:30pm in Parish Life Center, rooms St. Bernadette & St. Michael

Young Adult Ministry - 561-3022 xt 107

Contact **Beth Benham** | beth@johnxxiii.net
Contact **Kelly Evers** | kelly@johnxxiii.net



Welcoming All Young Adults 18 -39

- **December 5 - 7:15pm Trivia Night:** Deck the Halls at the Parish Rectory Christmas Party. Check out our Facebook Group: Rooted at St. John XXIII. For more info contact Beth or Kelly to sign-up.

Mission Trip:



ADULTS/YOUNG ADULTS 18 and older that would like to volunteer or go to the CHWC Mission Trip with the HSYG program please contact Beth Benham.



Join Our Facebook Group: *Rooted at St. John XXIII* for updates and local happenings.

Youth Ministry - 561-3022 xt 107

HSYG Contact **Beth Benham** | beth@johnxxiii.net
MSYG Contact **Kelly Evers** | kelly@johnxxiii.net

High School Youth Group

HSYG - Sundays 5pm to 6:30pm

- **November 17:** Sunday 4pm Youth Mass
- **November 17:** Right Judgment Guest Speakers is open to all high school teens. **PLEASE NOTE:** Confirmation Students **MUST ATTEND** 5pm-6:30pm

PARENTS/ADULTS/YOUNG ADULTS 18 and older that would like to volunteer with the HSYG program please contact Beth Benham

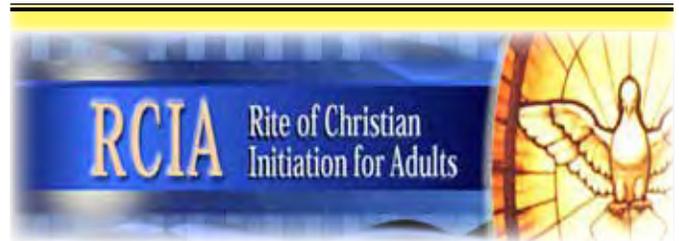
Thank You! Dancing Through the Decades

Thank you to EVERYONE who came out to support our Youth Mission Program at our "Dancing Through the Decades" Fundraiser. It was a HUGE success and a lot of FUN! Thank you to the band **Electric Lipstick** and all the **volunteers** who helped with ticket sales, set-up and clean-up. Special thanks to the **Piedmont, Romero, Marquez** and **Baran** Families as well as the **Knights of Columbus**. See page 9 for pictures of the FUN night!

Middle School Youth Group

MSYG - Wednesdays 6pm to 7:15pm

- **November 20:** - Fire, Faith & Fun
- **November 27:** - Thanksgiving Break - NO SESSION
- **THIS WEEK:** - This outdoor social session will focus on the importance of gathering with friends and discussing our faith. We will enjoy camp fire games and s'mores. Please wear closed toe shoes and pull your hair back if it is longer than your shoulders.



Thinking about joining the Catholic Church, but feel a little lost? The RCIA inquiry stage is the starting place for adults who are thinking about entering the Catholic Church.

"Be still, and know that I am God." – Psalm 46:10

In the inquiry stage, you're just finding out about Jesus, Christianity, and the Catholic Church. Talk to people, walk around in our shoes for a bit and get a feel for the place. As an inquirer, you're not yet sure exactly what you think about the Catholic Church. Your main task here is to develop your faith a little bit, get to know Christ, prayer, the Catholic Church, and how Christians live. That's the only way you can make an informed decision about entering the Catholic Church.

Doctrine Sessions:

Sundays 10:30am - St. Martha & St. Mary

- 11/17:** - Anointing of the Sick and Dignity of Life, Redemption Suffering
- 11/22:** - Advent Family Night w/Dinner - 6pm
- 12/1:** - NO SESSION - Thanksgiving Break
- 12/8:** - Blessed Virgin Mary: Who is she, what we believe; The Rosary
- 12/15:** - The Blessed Trinity
- 12/22:** - NO SESSION - Christmas Weekend
- 12/29:** - NO SESSION - New Year's Weekend

Inquiry Sessions:

Thursdays 6:30pm - St. Martha & St. Mary

- 11/21:** - Liturgical Year
- 12/5:** - Overview of the Sacraments
- 12/12:** - Blessed Virgin Mary & Saints
- 12/19:** - Catholic Belief: Nicene Creed & Prayer

For questions please contact **Ginny Whelan** at: **(239) 362-1283** or email: vwhelan99@gmail.com

Have you received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Just as bodies and minds grow, Catholics believe that the soul also needs to grow in the life of grace. The Sacrament of Confirmation builds on the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Holy Communion, completing the process of initiation into the Catholic community.

Want to Hear More?

Please call the parish office at **(239) 561-2245** and make an appointment to meet with Father Bob.



ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

Contact: **Tom Tihel** | tom@johnxxiii.net

SAVE THE DATE



DECEMBER 15

Join us **Sunday, December 15th** for a "A CHRISTMAS CUP OF CHEER" concert event at 3pm in the Parish Life Center!

Members of our Music Ministry: choirs, (Adult, youth/ Children's choirs, Spanish Choir, cantors, soloists and instrumentalists will be performing various sacred and secular music for the Christmas/Advent Season.

Desserts and beverages will be served during the concert. Free will offering will be accepted. For more information please contact Tom Tihel tom@johnxxiii.net

NEW KEYBOARDS NEEDED

The music ministry must replace the two aging keyboards due to age, use, malfunctioning buttons, audio distortion and display screen failure. The instruments are over 15 years old and technology has surpassed several generations of improvement. The keyboards are utilized weekly for rehearsals and each week during Mass, in addition to concerts and musicals in the Parish Life Center.

The cost for two state of the art keyboards is approximately \$10,000. Both are high quality and will meet the flexibility and demands of our growing music ministry.

Please contact Tom Tihel for more information or to make a donation.

Hispanic Ministry ANNOUNCEMENTS



Te invitamos a compartir gratos momentos en comunidad.

Misas en Español

- Lugar: Iglesia Católica St. John XXIII
- Hora: 1:30pm
- Fecha: Todos los domingos del mes.

Rezo del Santo Rosario

- Lugar: Iglesia Católica St. John XXIII
- Hora: 6:00pm
- Fecha: Todos los martes del mes.

Grupo de parejas con Padre Lorenzo

- Lugar: St. Michael & St. Bernadette PLC.
- Hora: 7:00pm
- Fecha: Primer viernes del mes.
- Cuidado de niños y niñas disponible.

Contactanos

- Para cualquier informe o preguntas relacionado al ministerio hispano, por favor enviarlos al correo contactohispanosjpxiii@gmail.com

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Fiesta de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Procesión a las 5:45pm:
Desde el Jardín de Nuestra Sra de Guadalupe (a lado de la Capilla de Adoración) hacia el Main Hall

Rosario Multicultural, Cantos y Ofrecimiento de Flores a la Virgen de Guadalupe a las 6:30pm:
Rezo en diferentes lenguajes en el Main Hall

También tendremos videoconferencia, snacks, postres, chocolate caliente, café y diversión.





Thank You!

WOW! It was such a FUN evening with friends, family and parishioners! Special thanks to Beth Benham, Kelly Evers, Youth Ministry, Electric Lipstick, The Knights of Columbus, volunteers, parishioners and everyone who made this night such a HUGE success!





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

General Announcements

- **Have You Listened to Our Podcasts?** Listen to our weekly inspirational messages from Father Bob and homilies from Mass. Visit our site weekly at johnxxiii.podbean.com
- **“Like” our Facebook Page!** For all the latest happenings and inspirational messages “Like” us on Facebook. Just search “St. John XXIII Catholic Church”.
- **Our Weekly Newsletter:** Visit our website, johnxxiii.net, scroll down to “Stay Connected” and enter your email address.
- **Download Our Parish App:** Foster a stronger parish life at St. John XXIII and better engage the New Evangelization. Download our app today at myparishapp.com or search your phone’s app store for myparish. You can also text the word “APP” to 88202!
- **St. John XXIII Catholic Church Mass Times:** Stay up to date and visit: <http://johnxxiii.net/info/new-mass-schedule/> for our Mass schedule.
- **Interested in Serving our Parish Family During Mass?** Men, women and teens may serve as a Greeter, Usher, Lector, or Eucharistic Minister. Please contact the parish office at (239) 561-2245, if you feel called to serve in any of these areas, we can use your time and talent!
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm & Saturday 8:30am-3pm. The Chapel will be open every 1st Friday until 9pm and extended hours on Wednesday night. Sign up to be an adorer by visiting the church website ministry tab or going directly to: <https://secure.rotundasoftware.com/l/enrollment/johnxxiii>
- **Nonperishable Donations:** When you are coming to Mass, please consider dropping off any nonperishable items in designated baskets located in the Narthex. These items help supply our food pantries and help those in need.
- **People Asking For Money Outside of Church:** We remind you that if there is anyone asking for money around the Church outside of Mass at our exits, ignore them. We have been contacted by the police regarding a group of professionals who travel to various churches. Be generous in giving to our Poor Boxes. That is where and how we can assist those who are truly in need. **Be sure to take your purses with you to Communion.**
- **If you are hospitalized at Gulf Coast Hospital** and would like to be visited by one of our Eucharistic Ministers or our Parish nurses, please let the Hospital Admissions Office know you are from our parish and contact our parish office, as well. Once you go home, if you are unable to attend Mass and would like to have the Eucharist brought to you, please call the parish office. (239) 561-2245
- **FREE Rosary Repair:** Send broken rosaries in a padded envelope to: Betty & Dick Holden, 7930 Estero Blvd., #502, Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931. Rosaries will be returned within a week of receipt. Old or broken rosaries may also be donated, repaired and sent to the missions. For more information email: holdenbnd@gmail.com or call Dick at (239) 463-3993
- **Advertise with us:** As much as you enjoy reading our bulletin, we’d love for you to be in it! If you own a business and are interested in advertising in our bulletin, please contact Dennis Gardner at J.S. Paluch (239) 470-9200

PARISH SURVEY REMINDER

If you missed the opportunity to complete a parish survey during Mass there is still time to provide your input.

- **GO TO www.SJ23survey.com TO COMPLETE ONLINE. THIS IS THE BEST METHOD!**
- **OR PICK UP A COPY IN THE NARTHEX, COMPLETE, AND RETURN TO THE “RED BOX”**
- **EVERYONE 18 AND OLDER IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**
- **CONFIDENTIALITY IS ASSURED**

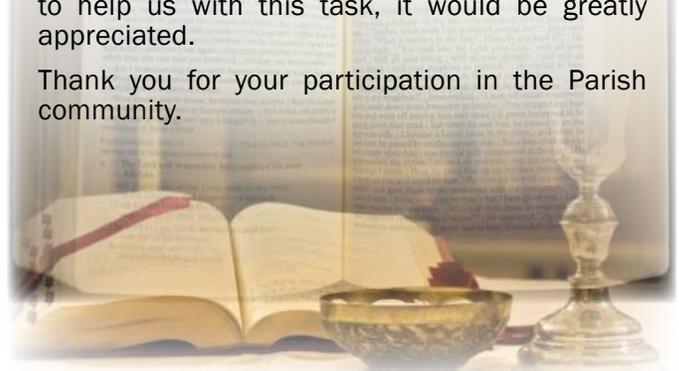
*The results will be shared in early 2020.
Thank you!*



CHANGING OUT CHURCH MISSALS Tuesday, November 26

We will plan to have the missals switched out on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26** after the **8:00am** Mass. We are asking for volunteers to help with this process. If you could spare a couple of hours to help us with this task, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your participation in the Parish community.





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



11/10/2019

Offertory	\$36,815.00
Building Fund	\$6,828.00
Total	\$43,643.00
Mass Attendance	3962
Registered Families	3737
Kid's Offertory Envelopes	\$0.00

No money is kept on Church property. Thank you for your continued generosity!

***Please make your checks payable to "St. John XXIII"**

2019 Catholic Faith Appeal

2019 Goal	\$347,000
Pledge	\$525,358.05
% of Goal	151.40%
% of Households	24.88%
Total	\$504,075.92

Planning Your Will



Remember St. John XXIII

A bequest is a wonderful way to express gratitude to God for a lifetime of blessings! The gift you give establishes a lasting legacy of love for others by helping the Church to continue our Catholic heritage through its many ministries.

PLEASE NOTE: Leaving money to the Parish in your will is not assessed and 100% goes to the parish.

The following is possible wording for including a bequest in your will:

"I bequeath the greater of \$____ or ____% of the residue of my estate to Bishop Frank J. Dewane, (or his successor), Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida, a corporation sole, whose principal office is located at 1000 Pinebrook Rd., Venice, FL 34285, For the benefit of St. John XXIII Catholic Parish, in Fort Myers, Inc."

The actual wording in your will should be determined by you and your attorney.

For more information, questions, or wish to consider a gift annuity or trust for St. John XXIII Catholic Church, then please contact:

Holly Atkins at (239) 561-2245



Thank You!



ONLINE Apparel Store!

Thank you to all of the staff and parishioners who purchased St. John XXIII merchandise last week. We made **\$3,127.00** in sales, which gives a **\$301.75** profit to our youth group. Your purchases can expected to be received by end of month. We hope to offer this online system again in the future.



MAKING A STOCK TRANSFER

When making a stock transfer to the Diocese of Venice on behalf of **St. John XXIII**, please email **holly@johnxxiii.net** to let us know you made the request. Sometimes a transfer comes to the Diocese with no name or no parish name. This will help us track the transaction. Thank you.

MEMORIALIZE A LOVED ONE

Here at St. John XXIII, we have several ways to memorialize your loved one.

If you are interested in learning more, call our Business Manager, **Holly Atkins** at **(239) 561-2245**

Memorialization
The art of
commemorating
the lives of
those we love.



ANGEL TREE GUIDELINES

DON'T DISAPPOINT A CHILD!

PLEASE TAKE A TAG ONLY IF
YOU CAN RETURN THE GIFT BY
DECEMBER 8

- When you select a tag, **PLEASE NOTE YOUR CALENDAR** to reflect:
 - The Code Number and Color of the Tag.
 - The Return Date of December 8th.
- The **suggested** Maximum Expenditure for a Gift is \$50.
- Please wrap the gift securely to withstand "rough and multiple handling"s prior to delivery.
- Scotch Tape the Coded Tag **securely** to the outside of the Gift.
- When returning your gift to the Narthex, please look for the Placard on the Wall that corresponds to the image on your gift tag - and place your gift under that Placard. That is a BIG help to us.
- Regrettably we cannot accept bicycles due to lack of storage space or the means to transport them.

Our Volunteers thank you for returning your gifts before December 8th. They have a very limited time in which to identify, log-in, and bundle gifts in time for transport and distribution to the various locations.

EACH TAG REPRESENTS SOMEONE IN NEED

*A child, senior, veteran, homebound,
or a member of our faith community.*



Painting

The St. Patrick Patio

Do you have a steady hand and enjoy painting?

Do you have some time to help with a project in our St. Patrick Patio?

We need a few volunteers to help us repaint the lettering on the brick pavers.

If you are interested, please call **Holly Atkins** in the parish office at: **(239) 561-2245**



Knights of Columbus

WHAT'S NEW?

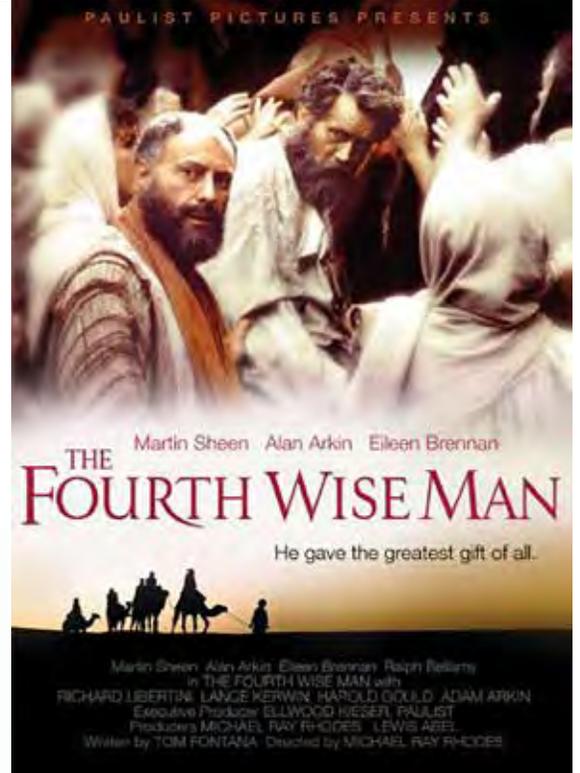


Brother Knight **Larry Evener** and Woman's Guild President **Sue Edwards**, presented the proceeds of our first bingo game to **Barbara Durkin** of Social Justice. The money will be used to feed the needy at Christmas. We hope to have another bingo night soon, so watch the bulletin for more information.



NO CHARGE!
FRIDAY DECEMBER 6
6PM TO 8:30PM
IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

Our next presentation is *"The Fourth Wise Man"*. This 1985 film tells the story of Artaban, a young Magus (Wise Man) who desires to follow the star to the birthplace of the coming King, against the counsel of his friends and family. Artaban and his reluctant servant Orontes set off to join the caravan of the three other wise men. They miss the caravan, but Artaban continues the search for his King, always one step behind.



Please RSVP by December 3rd
 so we know how much food to prepare.

Pizza donated by:
The Knights of Columbus
 RSVP via email:
deaconrich@johnxxiii.net



Craftie Ladies

FAIR

PARISH LIFE CENTER
ALL CLASSROOMS

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 7
3PM - 6PM

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 8
8AM - 1PM



SCRIPTURE CLASS ON ESSENTIAL OILS

Gifts of the Magi

GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, MYRRH, OTHER OILS IN SCRIPTURE



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

6:30PM - 8:00PM

PARISH LIFE CENTER
St. Bernadette & St. Michael

Learn:

- WHAT THE GIFTS REPRESENT
- LEARN THE HISTORICAL AND PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE OF ESSENTIAL OIL

Trace God's hand through scripture as you understand how oils point to Christ, "...*Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing*" Ezekiel 47:12

You will love this class! OILS OF THE BIBLE GIFT will be given to everyone attending! Oil safety instructed.

This is an opportunity to experience essential oils. Essential oil infused snacks will be served.



Instructed by: ROBIN DYSARD

Please RSVP to PTdoctoroils@gmail.com
or call (239) 949-7000

REGISTRATION IN THE NARTHEX THIS WEEKEND

BEREAVEMENT AND BEYOND



If you lost a loved one, we offer a safe, supportive place to deal with this life changing event.

We invite you to join us as you journey to find new meaning and purpose in your life. You will be warmly welcomed.

The Bereavement and Beyond Group meets each Tuesday from 1pm-3pm in the Parish Life Center, in rooms: St. Bernadette and St. Michael.

OUR GOAL

25+ GUESTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the Parish office at (239) 561-2245

RESPECT LIFE

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY SATURDAY:

12pm-1pm: Silent Adoration Time for the Respect of All Life in the St. Luke Adoration Chapel.

EVERY 4TH SATURDAY:

9:15am-9:45am: Monthly Prayer Walk at Ft. Myers Abortion Clinic - 3900 Broadway Avenue.

PLANNING MEETING:

Join us in the Parish Life Center in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton classroom on Tuesday, **November 19th** at **9am** and **6:30pm** for the Respect Life meeting.

For more information contact the parish office at (239) 561-2245



respectlifejohn23@gmail.com

Second Annual

ADVENT WREATH MAKING FAMILY EVENT

We hope all will attend this special event to prepare us for the birth of Christ Our Savior. You will learn about the history and significance of Advent and make an Advent Wreath to take home.

This event is a chance for the ENTIRE COMMUNITY to come together and kick off the ADVENT SEASON in such a fun and memorable way!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
Parish Life Center - 12:30PM
LUNCH AND GUEST SPEAKER

\$15 PER FAMILY
or Individual

IF USING WREATH FROM LAST YEAR

\$20 PER FAMILY

INCLUDES WREATH FORM

\$30 AT THE DOOR

IF SPACE AVAILABLE

- ALL SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE WREATH-MAKING
- ADDITIONAL CRAFTS FOR THE LITTLE ONES
- WREATHS WILL BE BLESSED
- LUNCH PROVIDED/BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

2nd Annual ADVENT WREATH MAKING FAMILY EVENT

Family Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Number of Adults: _____

Number of Children: _____

Please fill out this form/money by **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25** so we have enough food and supplies. You can return to the Parish Office or Faith Formation Office.

Thank You and God Bless!

Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

2nd Annual Falcon Family Bazaar: Friday, November 22nd from 8am-2pm at St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall located at 2057 Cleveland Avenue in Ft. Myers.

"Enchanted Sea" St. Andrew Gala: Saturday, November 23rd at The Westin Cape Coral Resort at Marina Village. Live entertainment, casino, and live/silent auctions. For sponsorship and ticket information visit: SandSgala.com

"Best of Broadway XXI: Join Lee Van Asten and friends on Sunday, November 24th at Peace Lutheran Church, located at 1580 McGregor Boulevard in Ft. Myers. Performances start at 2pm. Tickets are not required but free will offerings will be accepted.

Mother & Daughter Advent Retreat: The 3rd Annual Advent Retreat and Tea is being held from 9am-12:30pm on Saturday, November 30th at St. Ann Parish, Rooney Hall, 995 Third St. S., Naples. Prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas and enjoy some mother-daughter time! The cost is \$25 per mother and daughter. Register at www.dioceseofvenice.org/calendar. For more information contact Kim at elsmore@dioceseofvenice.org

Free Mental Health Counseling: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. is offering free mental health counseling services for adults, children and families who lived in Florida during Hurricane Irma. Counselors can help resolve a variety of issues. Visit the website at www.catholiccharitiesdov.org or call Joan at (941)-355-4680 ext. 311

Novena of Masses for Life: Participate in a Mass near you and pray for life! Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife for the monthly schedule of Novena of Masses for Life.

Spiritual Adoption Program: You are invited to register to spiritually adopt an unborn child in danger of abortion. Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/offices/respect-life/spiritual-adoption-program and receive monthly updates on the development of the child in the womb. Call (941) 441-1101 or email Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org

SWFL Catholic Moms: Join other moms for coffee, brunch, childcare and fellowship the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 9:30am-11:30am at Church of the Resurrection's Parish Hall. 8121 Cypress Lake Drive in Ft. Myers. Contact Amanda Gavini at (239) 222-0452

Catholic Charities: Provide support, shelter, food and education to families and individuals in your community. total of 92 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to clients. Visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org to donate.

Televised Mass for the Homebound: For those who are unable to attend Mass due to medical or physical limitations, the Diocese of Venice offers a televised Mass each Sunday. For viewers in the northern portions of the Diocese, the Mass airs at 9:30am on the CW Network; and for those in the southern portions of the Diocese, the Mass is at 10:30am on WFTX-TV (FOX-4).

New Treatment Center for Teens: NAMI is pleased to announce the newly opened treatment center for teen substance abuse at the Vince Smith Center. Located at 2450 Prince St. in Ft. Myers. They offer a therapeutic environment for teens ages 13-17. Education is provided by the Lee County School District. For more information call (239) 338-2306



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5 - 6:30PM

Church of the Resurrection

\$12 Donation

www.faithandwineleecounty.com

Guest Speaker:

BARBARA ALDERFER

"We CAN Change the World! How to Pray Powerfully!"



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 - 6PM

Church of the Resurrection

\$10 Donation

www.faithandale.com

Guest Speaker:

REVEREND VINCENT LAMPERT

(Designated Exorcist, Archdiocese of Indianapolis)

"Church Teaching on Exorcism"





HEARING LOOP INSTALLED

IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

St. John XXIII has installed a Hearing Loop in the new Parish Life Center to assist those with hearing loss in order to hear more clearly during events, activities, and meetings. A Hearing Loop is an assistive listening system that transmits sound directly into one's hearing aids or cochlear implants rather than depending on sound coming from the loudspeakers. To receive the Loop signal and hear more clearly, manually activate your T-coil or telephone setting on your hearing aid or cochlear implant. If you don't know if you have a T-coil or whether yours is properly programmed, consult your audiologist or hearing aid professional. If you don't wear hearing aids, ask to use a Loop receiver to receive the sound.



If you have further questions about Looping, please contact the installation company, **Complete Hearing Solutions** at www.CompleteHearingSolutions.org or call (727) 260-3488



HEARING LOOP BASICS:

How Does a Hearing Loop Work?

A Hearing Loop, through the use of a Loop amplifier and strategically placed wire around the room, transmits a signal (electromagnetically) that is received directly by and into a hearing aid or cochlear implant that has a T-coil installed in it or a special receiver for those who don't wear hearing devices.

What are the benefits of a Loop System?

Loop Systems help eliminate bothersome background noise and reverberation/echo. Additionally, Loops transmit sound directly into hearing aids and cochlear implants utilizing the prescriptive corrections that are programmed for that individual. No external receivers are required but are available for those without hearing devices.

What is a T-Coil?

A T-coil or Telecoil, is a small metal rod with metal wire wrapped around it that is installed in a hearing aid or cochlear implant which is necessary to receive the Loop signal. The other purpose of the T-coil is to make using the telephone easier by eliminating the high pitched interference you may hear when putting the phone to your ear.

How do I know if I have a T-Coil?

The T-coil program necessary for use with the Loop System is one that is manually activated by the user. This is done by either pressing a button on the hearing aid or cochlear implant itself or by use of a remote control. You may presently be pressing this button to use the telephone - It is the same program. If you are uncertain if you have a manual T-coil program, consult with your hearing professional as you may have one but it may not be activated.