



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

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

May 24, 2020

Memorial Day

WE HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED



ONLINE BULLETIN ONLY - NOT PRINTED

St. John XXIII Catholic Parish in Fort Myers, Inc. a Florida non-profit corporation

May 24, 2020

Please Note:

There will be
CONFESSIONS
outside the church
Every Saturday
8:30am-9:30am
LIVE streaming
MASSES on
Facebook/Website

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 Francis Head

fdhead@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday,
9:00am-Noon Only
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

PLEASE NOTE: You are welcome to attend 8:00am Daily Mass in the Parish Life Center. Weekend Holy Mass with a congregation present has resumed in the Church. Please wear a mask, bring sanitizer and practice social distancing. We will continue to live-stream Masses on Facebook and the Website.

MONDAY, MAY 25

- 8:00 AM † Tom Stankowski by Allen & Joyce Jackson

TUESDAY, MAY 26

- 8:00 AM † John Benanti by Vincent Vaccarino

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

- † Chester Izdorcak by Cristina Martinez

THURSDAY, MAY 28

- 8:00 AM ♥/† Living & Deceased Members of The Martinez Family

FRIDAY, MAY 29

- 8:00 AM † David Butler by Maryann & Russell Schmidt

SATURDAY, MAY 30

- 8:00 AM † Jerry Wahl by James & Leslie Morris
- 4:00 PM † Miryam Giraldo by Ana Thompson
- 8:00 PM † Teresa - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, MAY 31

- 7:15 AM † Dorothy Schott by The Bob Rost Family
- 9:15 AM † Elizabeth Fiali by Jo Anne Walsh
- 11:15 AM † Phil & Fran Barnas by Ken & Linda
- 1:30 PM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII - Spanish Mass

THE 2020 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR

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.

MAY 31, 2020 - READINGS

- 1ST READING GN 11:1-9
- 2ND READING ROM 8:22-27
- GOSPEL JN 7:37-39

DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP

Foster a STRONGER PARISH LIFE at
St. John XXIII and better engage the
New Evangelization.

Download our app: myparishapp.com
or search your phone's app store for
myparish. You can also text the word
"APP" to **88202**



Pastoral Team

Business Manager

Holly Atkins

holly@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Maintenance

Supervisor

Rob Erp

239-561-2245

Maintenance Assistant

- Dave Mraz

Dir. of Faith Formation

Chris Biel

chrisdre@johnxxiii.net

239-561-7499

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ana@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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Parishioner Engagement

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239-561-3022

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thrift@johnxxiii.net

239-433-4097

15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110

Ft. Myers, FL 33908

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

Parish Life Center

Coordinator

Ivette Janoschka

ivette@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Faith Formation Assistant

Trisha Fields

trisha@johnxxiii.net

239-561-7499

Office Assistant

Brenda Gregory

brenda@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange

blange@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

THE *Meaning* OF *Memorial Day*

by: **Jeremy Wells - Catholic Exchange**

Each May, the United States celebrates a day called Memorial Day. Does Memorial Day have meaning? What is the history of Memorial Day?

Memorial Day was first widely observed in May 1868. The celebration commemorated the sacrifices of the Civil War and the proclamation was made by General John A Logan. Following the proclamation, participants decorated graves of more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers.

In years since World War 1, the day has become a celebration of honor for those who died in all America's wars, as well as those who are Veterans and current members of the US military.

In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday. The United States celebrates this holiday the last Monday of May.

Many people are very free with their opinions about war, about whether or not we should fight this war or that, about where and how the military should be deployed or brought home. In some countries, freely expressing these opinions could land you in jail or worse. In America, our right to express them is protected by the highest law in our land. In America, men and women have given their lives defending that right.

Regardless of whether we support a particular war, we should always support the men and women who serve in our military.

Memorial Day is about honoring the fallen, giving thanks to all who have served and who are serving. It is about supporting the men and women who day after day put their lives on the line so that you and I can be free.

Does Memorial Day have meaning to you? Many communities around the United States have memorial day events at cemeteries where veterans and spiritual leaders speak. Other cities and towns host parades to honor the military. However, in many cities around the country, these events have been forgotten.

It is important for Americans to take time to remember the sacrifices that bought their freedom.

To all our veterans, the ones who came home and the ones who didn't, our debt to you is deep. Know that we remember you, we thank you, and we ask the good Lord to reward you for your faithful service to the United States of America.



PRAYER FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25th

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. Amen.

WE HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED

Prayer List

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

Elaine Quan	Patty Heilman Normile
Ryan Novajasky	Patty Ruth
Lynne Haughey	Michael Smith
Carol Clausen	Mike Foy
Marlene LaRose	Lynn Graper Bowman
Erika Arquilla Hlavacek	Henry Ramirez
Jeff Hlavacek	Evelyn Williams
Bernadette Frammarino	Bill Barrett
Antoinette Bosco	Scott Geiger
Gary Neubauer	Jennifer Jackson
Tom Biedak	Doug Rizzi
Curtis Atkins	Jim & Diane Wittenauer
Jennifer Salzman	Frank Carroll
Lea Frazier	Mary Ellen Walker
Deborah Hufstedler	Susan MacDonald
Bernice Pederson	Lucy Rose Dommoyer
Linda Sayres	Debra Santos
Richard Butler	Meaghan Onofrey

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, please email the parish office at: info@johnxxiii.net

Prayers for Eternal Life

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

**Phan Van Tuat
Col. Robert Pyle**



Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **Rev. Joseph Grokso**
Requested by: **Sue Finnegan**



Tabernacle Candle

For the Health of: **Meaghan Onofrey**
Requested by: **The Miller's**





WATCH ON FACEBOOK

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday - Saturday

SATURDAY, MAY 23

- 4:00pm with Fr. Angelo
 - 8:00pm Vietnamese Mass
- <https://www.facebook.com/fort.myers.5454>

SUNDAY, MAY 24

- 11:15am with Fr. Bob & Fr. Saji
 - 1:30pm Spanish Mass
- <https://www.facebook.com/ministeriohispano.sanjuan.1>



WATCH AT HOME:

<https://dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/communications/tvmas/>

WFTX-TV FOX 4 - Sundays at 10:30am



ELECTRONIC GIVING

<https://osvhub.com/st-john-xxiii-parish/funds>

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHAPEL



OPEN WEEKLY

for ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

10:00am to 1:00pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

We welcome you to spend time in quiet prayer with 10 people at a time for prayerful reflection. (Enter near the Vietnamese Statue)

Please follow the safety guidelines from our Bishop:

- **You must wear a mask**
- **Bring your own hand sanitizer**
- **Always practice the 6-foot distancing inside and outside the Chapel**

WEEKLY *Confession*

Confession continues
OUTSIDE the CHURCH
EVERY SATURDAY
8:30AM - 9AM



FOLLOW ST. JOHN XXIII
on INSTAGRAM

<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnxxiiichurch/>



Instagram

Faith Formation

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

As a precaution to Corona Virus outbreak, Faith Formation classes for both Wednesday and Sunday continue to be cancelled until further notice. Please check your weekly Faith Formation emails, the online bulletin or Facebook for updates. In addition, weekly emails will have activities and resources to keep your children connected to class and the parish.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Mark your calendars now! Vacation Bible Camp will be held June 22 to June 26th from 9am-12noon. The Camp is open to children in Kindergarten through those entering 6th Grade. (Also include Pre-K 4 days and 4th grade if the child is Rocky Railway.) Just steps us through. Faith Formation forms are available online. The camp fills quickly. Please don't delay registering your child! Due to its popularity, the camp is only open to St. John XXIII parishioners.



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 IN-PERSON CLASSES
ARE POSTPONED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE

Keep in TOUCH with your *Faith* ONLINE:

OPENING THE WORD

YOUR JOURNEY INTO
THE SUNDAY READINGS



Watch a short video each week on **Formed.org** to help prepare you for the upcoming Sunday Readings. Register at <https://johnxxiii.formed.org/> and follow the instructions to sign in and watch Opening the Word. View all of the Catholic content 24/7. Please join our weekly Zoom meeting. Email **Terry Penza** at: terry@terrypenza.com for more information.



ACCESS ON THE GO!

There are two ways to get FORMED right at your fingertips:

1. Apple users can download the iOS app.
2. Android users can use FORMED on the go with these easy instructions.

For more audios and e-books visit: www.formed.org

ONLINE

Bible Studies

WATCH NEW BIBLE STUDIES
with Jeff Cavins & Others at:

<https://www.facebook.com/AscensionPress/>





The Ascension OF THE Lord

The Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord oftentimes is an understated event in the Church's liturgical year. We profess the reality of this historical and supernatural event each Sunday as we profess the Creed. It is a significant event, in fact, it is the climax before He sends the Paraclete. In returning to the Father, Jesus leads us into the Father's presence and forever tears the veil dividing mankind from God. It is through the Ascension in light of the Paschal Mystery that we are able to go home. Our Lord, now sitting at the right hand of the Father, in His glorified incarnate form, brings us to the Father. We are now able to enter into the Heavenly sanctuary and behold the beatific vision at the end of our holy lives.

The Ascension Reminds us that this is Not our Home:

In the glory, awe, mystery, and joy of the Resurrection we celebrate the gift of our salvation. We have been redeemed in Christ. The Lord's Ascension reminds us that earth is our temporary home. We are sojourners with our gaze fixed on the faraway land. We seek the white shores, the place of peace, eternity with our Beloved. Christ has paved the way for us and He calls each one of us to follow Him back to the Father, so that we may truly rest in the love of the Most Holy Trinity. We are now able to follow Christ back to our permanent home in Heaven. We too are called to return to the Father.

Christ Intercedes for us Through our Joys and Sorrows:

The path home is an arduous journey. In our struggle to become holy through God's grace, we will constantly stumble and begin again. The spiritual life is a constant beginning again. St. Francis de Sales reminds us: "It is right that we should begin again every day. There is no better way to complete the spiritual life than to be ever beginning it over again." In the seemingly mundane experiences of daily life, we can become overburdened and frustrated with our failures in the spiritual life. In reality, Our Lord now sits at the right hand of the Father interceding on our behalf constantly. Through His grace, we are able to make progress. This progress may not even be obvious to us each day, but bit by bit we continue on the journey home. The point is to begin again and keep our eyes fixed on Christ and His desire to draw us to Him.

We Always Live in Hope:

The Ascension is cause of great joy and hope. The Ascension points to Christ's kingship and the renewal of the world. We now wait in joyful hope for His glorious return. In a world marred by sin, pain, and suffering we are able to look in hope to our Heavenly home and the end of time. When we read the news, and see violence, pain, suffering, or when we ourselves experience sorrow and suffering, we can look in hope as the Apostles did when Our Lord returned to the Father at the Ascension. It is because Christ now reigns at the right hand of the Father that we can stand firmly in hope, faith, peace, and charity as the storms of this life rage on around us. The battle is won!

This hope does not take us away from our duty to bring the world into conformation with the Most Holy Trinity. It is precisely because we are redeemed and live in the hope of Christ that we must make "disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19) and bring others to the Eucharistic banquet. We live in an age when many people live in despair and loneliness. They do not know they are made for Heaven. They do not know the joy of Christ and the hope of the Paschal Mystery. It is on this great Solemnity that we once more look to Heaven in hope, pray for the strength to persevere on the journey home, and bring others along the pilgrim way.



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
- **Follow us on Instagram:** St. John XXIII is now on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/stjohnxxiiichurch/>
- **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!
- **Free Mental Health Services :** Catholic Charities offers Free mental health services for adults, children and families. Counselors can help resolve with a wide variety of issues such as stress, anger, anxiety, relationship problems, trauma, depression, low self-esteem and grief. Call (239) 337-4193
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** The Chapel will be remain CLOSED until MASSES resume. We will keep you updated with any changes.
- **Thrift Store Closed:** The Thrift Store is closed and is not accepting drop off donations, nor picking up at this time. All questions may be emailed to thrift@johnxxiii.net during the shut-down.
- **Non-Perishable Donations:** Please consider donating items to St. Martin DePorres to help people in need during this pandemic.
- **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.
- **Endowment Fund:** This fund with the Catholic Community Foundation of SW Florida is designed to help provide long-term support and sustainability far beyond our lifetimes. Anyone wishing to contribute to the future of our Parish, contact Michael Morse at (941) 441-1124 or Holly Atkins at (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

WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Andrea Nova
- Fabio Rodas & Maria Moya
- Chad & Amanda Swindle
- Jan Berg

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 on a date to be determined.**

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
Capt. Kellyn C. 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



Change a Life Donate Blood



"It's been an amazing journey. The blood donors made it possible."
- Amanda,

Mother of Lillian, patient, Gollano Children's Hospital of SW Florida

The Lee Health Bloodmobile

SUNDAY, MAY 31

8am-1pm

St. John XXIII Parking Lot

EVERY PINT OF BLOOD DONATED SAVES 2 LIVES!

Spend a few minutes of your time and save the life of another person. Your donation will benefit local residents and visitors in Lee County.

All donors will receive a thank you gift card and wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

For more information call **(239) 343-2333** or visit: www.leehealth.org/bloodcenter/bloodmobile.asp



Thank You!

We honor all the Veterans buried in our Memorial Garden.

We would like to thank **MIKE SULLIVAN** of the Knights of Columbus for putting a flag at the stone of each Veteran.

WE HONOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED



Online Giving



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912
<https://osvhub.com/st-john-xxiii-parish/funds>

May, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to announce that Online Giving is available for you to make contributions to St. John XXIII parish. This option makes use of current technology and security standard, and allows you to easily setup recurring contributions. It also enables our parish to take advantage of new tools to become more efficient.

ONLINE GIVING PARISHIONER BENEFITS:

- Secure and confidential. No need to share payment information with the parish office.
- Efficient. Set up direct withdrawals from your checking or savings account or a credit card.
- Simple. Start, stop and change your contributions at any time.
- Convenient. No need to write a check or have cash available.

Online Giving is intended to be a convenient tool for you to use and we strongly support both Online Giving and offering envelopes for contributions to the parish. Online Giving is the electronic way to participate in weekly offertory.

START GIVING ONLINE TODAY!

- Visit our parish website at <https://osvhub.com/st-john-xxiii-parish/funds> and click on the online giving link.
- Create an Account
- Schedule Your Recurring Gifts

Please prayerfully consider giving online. If you have any questions, email the parish office at: info@johnxxiii.net

God Bless,

Father Bob Tabbert





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



	5-17-20	5-19-19	Difference
Offertory	\$14,836.00	\$23,064.00	\$8,228.00
Building Fund	\$925.00	\$4,743.20	\$3,818.20
Total	\$15,761.00	\$28,807.20	\$12,046.20
Mass Attendance	0	2865	
Registered Families	3648	3610	

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

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

2020 Catholic Faith Appeal

2020 Goal	\$492,000.00
Pledge	\$282,315.25
% of Goal	57.38%
% of Households	17.45%
Payments	\$218,129.95

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 email:

Holly Atkins: holly@johnxxiii.net



ABOUT Online Giving SOFTWARE

We have a new online giving software with Our Sunday Visitor. It is easy to use and we would like you all to consider giving in this way. You can pick the fund you want to give towards or do a one time donation. If you were set up for online giving before May 1st, 2020 with our older software, authorized.net, we would like you to set up your giving in our new software and then call the office or email: Ana@johnxxiii.net to let us know that you are set up on the new software and we will delete your information on the old system. Go to our website and click on the Giving button, then select Set up online giving securely here, on the top of the front page, select set up account on the top right side of the page and follow the directions to set up your account and select how you want to give. If you need help or have questions, please call the office at **(239) 561-2245**

ENDOWMENT FUND

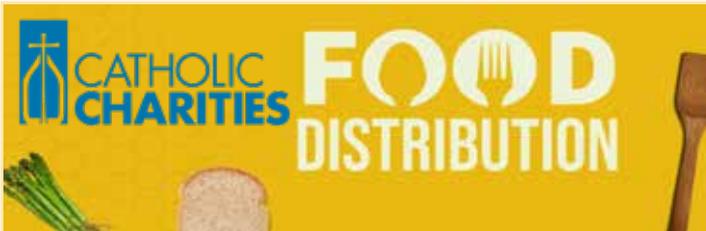


CREATE YOUR CATHOLIC LEGACY

HELP ENSURE THE LONG-TERM
SUSTAINABILITY OF ST. JOHN XXIII

St. John XXIII now has an endowment fund with the Catholic Community Foundation of SW Florida. The endowment fund is designed to help provide long-term support and sustainability far beyond our lifetimes, and is open to anyone wishing to contribute to the future of our Parish. Please PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SUPPORTING the endowment fund.

For more information, contact **Michael Morse** at **(941) 441-1124** or email **Holly Atkins** in the Parish Office at holly@johnxxiii.net



Catholic Charities food distribution will take place only at the following times and locations. Please call the regional number for more information.

GUADALUPE SOCIAL SERVICES

211 S. 9th St. Immokalee, FL
(239) 657-6264
Mondays and Wednesdays
9:00am to 11:00am

JUDY SULLIVAN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

3174 Tamiami Trail E., Naples, FL
(239) 793-0059
Tuesdays - 9:00am to 11:30am

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Faith and Spirituality
in the Face of Loss - By Bill Cushnie

When someone we love dies, it is inevitable that questions of faith and spirituality arise. For some, faith is challenged, for some it is dashed, for some it is a comfort, and for some it is a new exploration.

Allow for the search for meaning within the grieving individual's religious or spiritual values. Listen without judgment or advice. If they are angry with God, or confused, simply acknowledge by saying, "It's hard to believe at a time like this." Each individual will work through this search in their own way, and in their own time.

Each individual grieves differently. Additionally, individuals grieve different losses differently. Be flexible, and gentle with yourself and others, and allow the grief and mourning to unfold naturally.

Remember that for the young child, play is the focus of their world. Play is spiritually uplifting for a child. Children grieve in spurts, and may move quickly from sadness to play, and back again. By playing during somber times, they are not intending to be disrespectful,



nor should we assume they are 'OK,' and not grieving. Play helps children cope and heal. Join them if you are up to it, and always make it OK for them.

Seek the help of a grief counselor if your or your child's spiritual struggle doesn't soften. Support groups where others are experiencing some of the same struggles are often very helpful.

Include children in the rituals that surround death—funerals, memorial services, burials. They should never be forced, but included as appropriate to age. The very young may just attend with a loving adult. The adolescent may read a poem or speak. Excluding a child from these rituals does not protect them. Including them helps start their healing journey.

Create new rituals that touch the spiritual side. Anything from lighting candles, to releasing balloons with notes, to quiet time at a grave side visit, to reminiscing with family and friends, to laying a flower on an altar. Rituals affirm landmarks in our lives – birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, baptisms, etc. The loss of someone we love is also a landmark in our lives and deserves the attention rituals give.

Faith and/or spirituality are a part of life and contribute to our mental health and ability to survive hardship. However spirituality takes form in your beliefs, embrace it for yourself, and nurture it in others, as they seek peace and comfort at such critical times in life.

Meaning of: *Flag Draped Coffin*

All Americans should be given this lesson. Those who think that America is an arrogant nation should really reconsider that thought. Our founding fathers used GOD's word and teachings to establish our Great Nation and it is high time Americans get re-educated about our Nation's history.

Be proud of the country we live in and even more proud of those who serve to protect our "GOD GIVEN" rights and freedoms.

Take the time to read this. To understand what the flag draped coffin really means when the flag is laid upon it and is surrendered to so many widows and widowers.

Do you know that at military funerals the 21-gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776?

Have you ever noticed the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies but here is its significance:

THE 1ST FOLD of the flag is a symbol of life.

THE 2ND FOLD is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

THE 3RD FOLD is made in honor and tribute of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace.

THE 4TH FOLD exemplifies our weaker nature as citizens trusting in God; it is to Him we turn for His divine guidance.

THE 5TH FOLD is an acknowledgment to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."

THE 6TH FOLD is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

THE 7TH FOLD is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies.

THE 8TH FOLD is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

THE 9TH FOLD is an honor to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

THE 10TH FOLD is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first-born.

THE 11TH FOLD represents in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

THE 12TH FOLD represents in the eyes of a Christian citizen, an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE 13TH FOLD or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their nations motto, "In God We Trust."

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

May God protect us always. One Nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all!



Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

Do You Need Help? If you need assistance from Catholic Charities for food, financial assistance or tele-mental health counseling, please call the number for your area listed below between the hours of 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday:

- Sarasota/Manatee/DeSoto/Hardee/Highlands Counties: (844) 385-2407
- Charlotte/Lee/Hendry/Glades Counties: (844) 385-2423
- Collier County: (844) 385-240

Help Your Parish: During these challenging times, Parishes face increased risk of financial shortfalls due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and its effects on everyday life. Parishes depend on weekly financial gifts to continue their ministries, especially in this critical time of crisis. Please prayerfully consider an online donation to your parish by visiting <https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/parish-donations-online/>

Catholic Charities Support: Financial support is needed during its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To help, please visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org/donate or send a check to: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice Inc., 5824 Bee Ridge Road, PMB 409, Sarasota, FL 34233-5065

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)

Project Rachel Post-Abortion: Reconciliation and healing is available to you. For more information, please call: Sylvia at (941) 412-5860 e-mail: project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org or visit: www.hopeafterabortion.com

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

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.

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

Informational Websites: Stay current with what is happening in the Catholic Church: Whispers in the Loggia (whispersintheloggia.blogspot.com), Catholic News Service (www.catholicnews.com), CRUX (cruxnow.com), Bishop Barron (www.wordonfire.org), Fr. Richard Rohr (cac.org/category/daily-meditations)

PRAYER FOR SAFETY During Hurricane Season

The season begins June 1 and will continue through November 30. All are encouraged to pray for protection from the storms that often threaten Southwest Florida. The devastation of recent hurricanes reinforces the fact that we need to pray for God's protection and care.

The prayer will be published in next week's bulletin.



It has once again been brought to the attention of the Diocese of Venice that parishioners have received text/email messages from people pretending to be priests and requesting donations in the form of gift cards and/or wire transfers. The messages often greet the person by name and have the priests name in the closing signature of the message; this is a well-crafted and targeted attack on the Church across the country which has hit our Diocese again. These text/email messages are 'spoofed' fakes that should not be responded to or taken seriously by anyone. The best defense against this sort of scam is to raise awareness in the community and not respond or open any worrying attachments. It is Diocesan policy that no priest or staff within the Diocese request donations in the form of gift cards, PayPal, MoneyGram, etc.

There is already an established process in place on how parishioners can make donations and participate in the life of the Parish. Whenever a parishioner is worried about any request for money from the parish or a priest, they should immediately call their parish and under no circumstances should they respond to these scam requests.

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Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. Your login information will be the same as your Amazon.com account.

How do I select St. John XXIII Catholic Church as my charitable organization to support on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you will need to search for and select Saint John XXIII to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Our parish will be listed as *Saint John XXIII Parish in Fort Myers, FL*. (PLEASE TYPE THE WORD SAINT) Please be sure that the parish, along with city & state are correct, as there are many listings. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

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Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

RECYCLING EQUALS MONEY

Here at St. John XXIII, we encourage you to recycle!

Our recycle bin is located to the far right of the Vietnamese Statue near the other side of the parking lot.

Items such as cardboard, newspapers, office paper and aluminum cans can be deposited in the recycle bin.

With your diligent help, we are able to receive money from the recycling company, Garden St. Paper Products, which in return, goes back to help the church.

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MAY 29

Memorial Day

FUN FACTS

- Would you believe that Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day? It wasn't declared the official name until 1967.
- It's estimated that approximately 32 million people travel by car over Memorial Day weekend.
- Memorial Day also marks the beginning of the summer vacation season while Labor Day marks the end.
- In some areas of the rural South, they hold annual Decoration Days around this time for certain cemeteries, often in the mountains.
- Memorial Day is sometimes confused with Veterans Day. However, Veterans Day honors all United States military veterans, while Memorial Day honors the soldiers who died while serving.
- Although not popular today, one tradition was to have a picnic while sitting on the ground of a cemetery. There are still some people in the rural areas of the South that continue to practice this tradition.
- The flag is supposed to be flown at half-mast until noon, and then raised to full mast until sunset on Memorial Day.
- Congress passed a law in 2000 that requires all Americans to stop what they are doing at 3pm on Memorial Day to remember and to honor those who have died serving the United States.

Parenting Pointer:

Should rules ever be broken? Jews in the Old Testament had lots of rules. Christians today have lots of rules. Citizens in any country have rules. Schools have rules. Discuss with your child whether there are any rules that are OK to break. Example: Don't tattle; but a bully is fighting your friend. What should you do?

“by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net”

Reflections by: J. Conroy

MATTHEW 28: 16-20

Commission and Promises

This reading concludes the Gospel of Matthew, and is consistent with the other Synoptic Gospels in that the disciples are instructed to proclaim the Gospel to “all nations.” (Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47) It's important to realize that for Jews of that time, such as Jesus and his disciples, “Nations” was our translation of *goyim*, or “Gentiles.” The command that we find here was the authorization to spread the word to non-Jews, not only to Jesus' own people. It also provides the most important formula within the Rites of the Church: the “Baptismal Formula.” For the most important Sacrament that any of us receive is Baptism, being made part of the Body of Christ, and Witnesses to the Gospel. Thus, we have three readings that “dove-tail” into one critical concept, bequeathed to us at the Lord's ascension to heaven: Baptism implies and demands Witness. The final sentence gives us the assurance that Witness will not be required of us in isolation, but that He is with us until the “end of the age.”

Reflections on Scripture
Jack Conroy, Ph.D.

Marriage Moment:

Memorial Day is a day to remember - not only those fallen in military service but also your spouse to whom you've pledged mutual service. Serve your spouse something today - a cool drink, a meal, a favor, a massage, an errand.

“by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net”



TIP 6 COVID-19 PARENTING

Talking about COVID-19

Be willing to talk. They will already have heard something. Silence and secrets do not protect our children. Honesty and openness do. Think about how much they will understand. You know them best.

Be open and listen

Allow your child to talk freely. Ask them open questions and find out how much they already know.

Be honest

Always answer their questions truthfully. Think about how old your child is and how much they can understand.

Be supportive

Your child may be scared or confused. Give them space to share how they are feeling and let them know you are there for them.

It is OK not to know the answers

It is fine to say "We don't know, but we are working on it; or we don't know, but we think." Use this as an opportunity to learn something new with your child!



Heroes not bullies

Explain that COVID-19 has nothing to do with the way someone looks, where they are from, or what language they speak. Tell your child that we can be compassionate to people who are sick and those who are caring for them.

Look for stories of people who are working to stop the outbreak and are caring for sick people.

There are a lot of stories going around

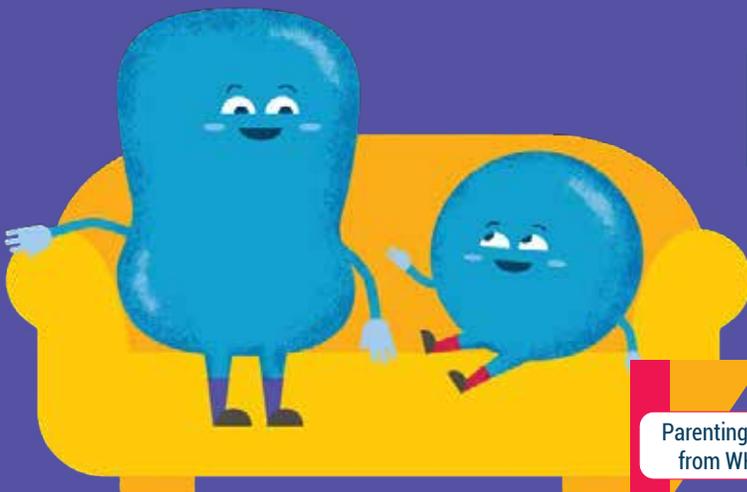
Some may not be true. Use trustworthy sites:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public> and

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/covid-19> from WHO and UNICEF.

End on a good note

Check to see if your child is okay. Remind them that you care and that they can talk to you anytime. Then do something fun together!



For more information search the below links:

Parenting tips from WHO

Parenting tips from UNICEF

In worldwide languages

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