



ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

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

June 21, 2020



*I will not leave you comfortless:
I will come to you.*

- John 14:18

ONLINE BULLETIN ONLY - NOT PRINTED

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

June 21, 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. Simon Dao

frsimon@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 livestream Masses on Facebook and the Website.

MONDAY, JUNE 22

- 8:00 AM † Arlene Brummer by JoAnne Walsh

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- 8:00 AM † Rachelle Elias by Faith D'Andrea

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

- † Virginia Bender by Chuck & Wanda McCallum

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

- 8:00 AM † Patricia Stransky by Karen Kuenz

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

- 8:00 AM † Noah Budd by his friend

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

- 8:00 AM † Patricia Stransky by Marcia Collins
- 4:00 PM † Daniel Joyce by Eleanor & Ken Knapp
- 8:00 PM † Teresa - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

- 7:15 AM † Marie DeAngelo by Dominick Fasanella
- 9:15 AM † Jack Walsh by JoAnne Walsh
- 11:15 AM † Marcia Ostojich by Carl & Gloria Larson
- 1:30 PM † Birmania Collado & Felix Quezada by Collado Family

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.

JUNE 28, 2020 - READINGS

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| • 1ST READING | 2 KGS 4:8-11, 14-16A |
| • 2ND READING | ROM 6:3-4, 8-11 |
| • GOSPEL | MT 10:37-42 |



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

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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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239-561-2245

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239-561-3022

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239-433-4097

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PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

Parish Life Center

Coordinator

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ivette@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Faith Formation Assistant

Trisha Fields

trisha@johnxxiii.net

239-561-7499

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Brenda Gregory

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239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange

blange@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Saint Joseph

THE PATRON SAINT OF FATHERS

by: **William James - Catholic News**

St. Joseph, husband of Mary and earthly father of Jesus, is the model of fatherhood. His faith and obedience to God inspired his devotion for his family. As we celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, June 21, it might be helpful to study his example. In "Five Lessons from St. Joseph," author Randy Hain points out attributes that serve as a helpful guide:

- St. Joseph Was Obedient
- St. Joseph Was Selfless
- St. Joseph Led By Example
- St. Joseph Was A Worker
- St. Joseph Was A Leader

"Let's look to the inspiring example of St. Joseph, Patron Saint of Fathers, workers and the Universal Church for his obedience, humility, selflessness, courage and the love he showed to Mary and Jesus. If we can emulate St. Joseph even a little each day, we will be that much closer to becoming the men you called to be.

St. Pope John Paul II highlighted St. Joseph to explain the Catholic understanding of fatherhood in his 1989 apostolic exhortation, *Redemptoris Custos* (Guardian of the Redeemer: On the Person and Mission of St. Joseph in the Life of Christ and the Church).

"Commending ourselves, then, to the protection of (St. Joseph) to whose custody God entrusted his greatest and most precious treasures, let us at the same time learn from him how to be servants of the economy of salvation. May St. Joseph become for all of us an exceptional teacher in the service of Christ's saving mission, a mission which is the responsibility of each and every member of the Church: husbands and wives, parents, those who live by the work of their hands or by any other kind of work, those called to the contemplative life and those called to the apostolate."

The significance of St. Joseph's presence in Jesus' life reminds us how important fathers are in our lives. Let us celebrate the fathers in our lives this Father's Day.



PRAYER FOR OUR FATHERS

*Dear St. Joseph,
Patron of Fathers, just
as you watched over
Jesus, guide and protect
all Fathers so that they
in turn can guide and
protect their families.*

*Give them the graces
of wisdom, courage,
understanding and
forgiveness.*

*Through your
intercession help them
show us the path
to holiness.*

*We ask this through
Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.*

Prayer List

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

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

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 call the parish office at: (239) 561-2245

Prayers for Eternal Life

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

**Fred Niemits
Joan Handel**



Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Ed Harlyvetch**
Requested by: **Dan & Judy Weller**



Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **Ed Pavlan
& Jim Harley**
Requested by: **Andrea & Dave**





WATCH ON FACEBOOK

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday - Saturday

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

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



WATCH AT HOME:

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

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

Thank You! PARISH COMMUNITY

We would like to thank all of the parishioners who have stayed after Mass to help with the sanitation along with our ushers. This has to be done after each Mass and we could not do it with only our ushers who are doing so many other jobs for us.

In addition, we are grateful to anyone who has volunteered to be the MC's at each Mass to help keep us all organized. You are all a true blessing to our parish community!

WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Tom & Margaret McMackin
- James & Jennifer Cavanaugh
- John Jay & Romanca Attwood
- Lawrence & Susan Bonora

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
Sean Ball
Major Bart Boma
Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove
Sgt. Phil Dellibovi
Staff Sgt. Chris Dominski
CPT Andrew Dugan, Spec. Forces
Major Andrew Duguay
Sgt. Jared Gaudet
Tech Sgt Jeffrey K. Green
Capt. Kellyn C. Hall
Andrew Herman
1st Lt. Paige Hortman
Sgt. Kathleen Hudepohl
PFC Michael P Hughes
SPC Michael Jednak
PFC Andrew Kanopkh
Michael Klem
Capt. Bradley D. Laux
Capt. Jacob Mundo, US Army
SSGT Anthony Padula
LCP James Palenik
Master SGT Peter Parison
Sgt. Justin Pingicer, Army
Lt. Col. Brady Sexton

2nd Lt. Kristen Thompson
Christian Troutner, US Navy
Alex Zizzo, US Navy Medic
PFC Jordan Feil, USA
Sgt. Hayden Linde, FLARNG
Aaron Crump, USCG
Sgt. Nathaniel Broemmel
Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo
Col. Scott C. Woodward
Private Nicholas Loeb, ARNG
Andrew Hawkinson, USN
Cavalry Scout Specialist,
Ryan Silva, Army
2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC
Jared Broemmel, US Navy
Army 2nd Lieutenant Edward
Hudson Tillinghast IV
Jethro Ignacio, US Air Force
1st Lt. Christopher Dryhurst,
US Air Force
Com. Craig Fowler, USN
Eric Sanchez, US Air Force
1st Lt. Colin Snook, 82nd ABN
Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army
82nd ABN



Faith Formation

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



Faith Formation has completed the 2019-2020 year. As plans for reopening are being made, please watch the bulletin and our website for updates for the 2020-2021 School Year.

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.

Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase.

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.penza@gmail.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

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Bible Studies

WATCH NEW BIBLE STUDIES
with Jeff Cavins & Others at:
<https://www.facebook.com/AscensionPress/>



Coordinator of Youth Ministries 561-3022 xt 107
Contact **Kelly Evers** | kelly@johnxxiii.net

Rooted at St. John XXIII

Welcoming all Young Adults 18 - 39

Rooted meets on the first Thursday of each month. Check out our trifold at the welcome desk for planned events.



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

Confirmation Program

- A two-year program that meets once a month during the school calendar year. Sessions are mandatory which include Baptismal, Eucharist, & Confirmation retreat. Bishop Verot students must register and attend the monthly sessions with youth currently not enrolled in a theology class; Youth Group Social Session, and/or Teen Mentoring Program available weekly on Sundays or Wednesday evenings. Trifolds will be available in July to plan attendance.

High School Youth Group

HSYG Social Sessions - Sundays 5pm to 6:30pm

- Youth Ministry Small Group Social Sessions are held on Sunday evenings throughout the school calendar year. The goal of the group is to build connections with one another and the parish as they discuss today's tough issues and how their Catholic faith plays a part in the decisions they make.

Middle School Youth Group

MSYG Sessions - Wednesdays 6pm to 7:15pm

- Trifolds will be available in July. They include: session dates, planned topics, events, and volunteer opportunities throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Volunteer Opportunities

- We need ADULT small group leaders.



GOOD STEWARD OF INFLUENCE



God has given of us
A GIFT
from His great variety of
SPIRITUAL GIFTS
Use them well to serve one another.
1 Peter 4:10

Everything you have is a gift from God; your health, your life, your salvation, your freedom, your friends, your family, your opportunities. God expects you to make the most of the things He gives you. The word for that in the Bible is called "stewardship."

Stewardship is the Old English word for "management." And just as you manage your time and your money, you also manage your influence.

God expects you to use your influence to help other people. What is influence? The Cambridge Dictionary defines influence as, "the power to affect how someone develops, acts or thinks." God expects you to be an influence.

You should want to be influential. In fact, it's quite selfish to say, "I don't really care about the rest of the world. I don't care about helping anybody else. I'm just thinking about little ol' me." In fact, Jesus commands that you use your influence for good in this world. You were put here to be an influence for good. God wants you to do that.

What we need in this world is a lot more positive influence. There are problems that need to be fixed and causes that need to be advanced, especially the cause of telling the whole world about Jesus, and we need every Christian to be influencing the world on Jesus' behalf. Here are some tips:

RECOGNIZE YOUR INFLUENCE: Stop and think about who you influence, and how you best influence them. Take inventory of your experiences, your talents and abilities, your passions and interests. And think about the people you seem to connect with the best. Realize that you do have influence and you simply need to recognize it.

EXERCISE YOUR INFLUENCE: Influence is like a muscle—use it or lose it. Most of us have far more influence than we've ever imagined. The influence that you have can be incredibly more powerful if you and I would just take the simple step of being a little more intentional about our influence.

MAXIMIZE YOUR INFLUENCE: There are only two legitimate reasons for expanding your influence. One is ministry and the other is mission. In other words, you expand your influence in order to help more people and to bring more people to Jesus. Any other reason for expanding your influence is illegitimate, self-centered, and selfish. On the other hand, there is almost nothing that God will not do for the person whose ultimate goal is the glory of God.



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!
- **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.
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** The Chapel remains CLOSED. We will keep you updated with any changes. For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry visit: <https://johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/>
- **Thrift Store Open:** Monday-Saturday from 10am-4pm. Please consider purchasing home furnishings and furniture at our Thrift Store. Many items are 50% off through the end of June. All questions may be emailed to thrift@johnxxiii.net
- **Free Mental Health Services:** Catholic Charities offers free mental health services for adults, children and families. Counselors can help resolve a wide variety of issues such as stress, anger, anxiety, relationship problems, trauma, depression, low self-esteem and grief. Call (239) 337-4193
- **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
- **Yarn Needed:** The Craftie Ladies appreciate all your generous donations in the past, and now we are in need of more yarn to make projects. You may drop off the donations in the church Narthex. Thank you in helping us do for others.
- **Exclusive Use of Rights:** All content on the St. John XXIII Parish website, including the Parish bulletin publication, and social media accounts are for the exclusive use of the Parish. It is unlawful for outside entities and organizations to use this content for promotion or other purposes without the express written permission of St. John XXIII and Diocese of Venice. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (239) 561-2245 - 2020 Copyright St. John XXIII

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHAPEL

OPEN WEEKLY
for ADORATION of the
BLESSED SACRAMENT
10:00am to 1:00pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

WEEKLY *Confession*

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

PARISH LIFE CENTER

8:00am DAILY MASS
MONDAY - SATURDAY

- **You MUST wear a Mask at all times**
- **Bring your own Hand Sanitizer**
- **Practice 6ft Social Distancing**

FR. SIMON HOANG MINH DAO, CRM

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

St. John XXIII Catholic Church is proud to introduce **Fr. Simon Dao** to the Parish Team! We look forward to experience his faith and commitment to the Parish!

About Fr. Simon

Fr. Simon Dao, was born in Ban Me Thuot, Vietnam on August 13, 1962. He completed college with a BA degree of Philosophy in 1999 at Conception Seminary College, Conception, MO. And received a Master of Divinity at Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans in 2004.

Ordination History:

Was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 2005 and served as Associate Pastor at Queen of Vietnamese Church in Port Arthur, TX from 2005-2008.

Pastor of Immaculate Conception of Mary Church in Wichita Falls, TX from 2008-2011.

Superior at Our House Studies at Conception Seminary College, MO 2011-2013.

Pastor of St. Boniface Parish and Administrator of the Vietnamese American Apostolate in the Diocese of Cleveland, OH from 2013-2018.

Pastor of Christ the King Parish from 2018- June 2020



We look forward to Fr. Simon joining our wonderful Parish Community!



Online Giving



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

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

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



	6--14-20	6-16-19	Difference
Offertory	\$22,305.00	\$20,676.00	\$1,629.00
Building Fund	\$2,356.00	\$1,664.00	\$692.00
Total	\$24,661.00	\$22,340.00	\$2,321.00
Mass Attendance	1067	2516	
Registered Families	3642	3623	

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	\$312,328.25
% of Goal	63.48%
% of Households	18.10%
Payments	\$252,353.95

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



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.



Thank You!



We are so grateful for your prayerful and continued financial support during this pandemic. We appreciate your online donations to keep our parish running. Please use this new link:

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

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.



A Father's Story

by: **Clayton Atkins**

When I sat down to speak with Lewis and Barbara Keister, I asked if they could tell me a little bit about themselves. Lewis' face burst into a broad smile, and he quickly began counting off his immediate family members: eight children, 44 grandchildren, 66 great-grandchildren, and 22 great-great-grandchildren. As I struggled to keep up and take notes, Lewis' daughter, Mary Poofy, slid me "The Calendar", an essential Keister family document—the only conceivable means by which anyone could keep track of Lewis and Barbara's extensive family. As I leafed through its pages, I was hard-pressed to find a date that was not occupied by a birthday, anniversary, or some sort of special occasion celebrated by one the 149 people who count themselves as part of the Keister clan.

Originally from Ohio, Lewis and Barbara Keister were married on March 5, 1946, a mere six weeks after they were introduced, and only a few short months after Lewis' return from serving in the Airforce during WWII. Lewis joked that he never rushed into anything important, but did convert to Catholicism four days before their wedding. Something must have worked...the Keisters recently celebrated their seventy-third anniversary, and they attribute their good fortune to having lived a Christian life in faith, love, and always hope.

All eight of their children attended Catholic schools, Barbara served in the Ladies Auxiliary, and Lewis has been an active member of the Knights of Columbus since 1948. "Without faith," Lewis says, "We would not be where we are today." Imagine the number of crises a family of 149 will inevitably undergo. But the Keisters have come to rely on each other: when someone is sick or going through trying times, there is an extensive network of tight-knit family spanning four generations and the entire country, from San Francisco to North Carolina, and Washington State to Florida.

The Keisters have been parishioners at St. John XXIII for the last six years, but sadly Lewis Keister passed away on May 20th, 2019. Lewis use to joke that, although he loved his new Florida parish, he still slept with a rosary of tiny buckeyes beneath his pillow. He will live on in his loved ones cherished memories.

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Lewis and Barbara Keister attended the Wedding Anniversary Mass on March 16, 2019 with Bishop Dewane. They were married for 73 years!



FATHER'S DAY FUN FACTS

- First local Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in Spokane, Washington but today Father's Day is celebrated around the world.
- Father's Day was started in the US in the early 20th century and is celebrated on the third Sunday of June.
- In 1972, President Nixon finally signed it into law and Father's Day became a permanent national holiday in the US.
- The necktie is consistently the most popular gift for dad.
- Over 87 million cards are sent each year, and makes Father's day the fourth-largest greeting card occasion of the year.
- Roses are the official flower for Father's Day. A red rose is worn in the lapel if your father is living, a white rose if he is deceased.
- it is estimated that the word dad began in the late 15th century. It is believed that it was simply derived from baby talk, as in many languages "dada" refers to a baby's acknowledgement of father.
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, one of the fastest growing groups in the United States are stay-at-home dads: they now number 214,000 men.
- In Germany, Father's Day is celebrated in an unusual way. Men hike with hand-pulled wagons filled with beer, and often partake heavily of that and the local food.
- Among seahorses, it is the male who carries the babies. While mating, the female seahorse will deposit 1,500 eggs in the male's pouch, who carries them until they're fully developed.

Parenting Pointer:

What did your own father teach you about being a father. Hopefully it was positive like fidelity, loyalty, protection, unconditional love. But even if your father was absent or flawed, you can still be inspired to be better with your own child.

"by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net"

Reflections by J. Conroy

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16 God, the Giver of Life

We read here part of the Elisha cycle of stories. As you recall, Elisha was the successor to the prophet Elijah, who did not die, but who was taken alive into Heaven (2 Kgs. 2:11). We see here one of Elisha's miracles, one where life is promised. The image of women conceiving after they have passed menopause is not uncommon in the Hebrew Scriptures; it always emphasizes the fact that God is the source of Life, despite what might seem to be insuperable obstacles. If we read just a few words more, we find that the prophecy of Elisha did, in fact, become fulfilled and the Shunamite woman (too bad the patriarchalism of the time did not afford her a name!) did in fact bear a son. As an interesting side-light, this very son died as a child, and its mother pursued Elisha (expecting, I presume, a guarantee on the son!) and Elisha returned to raise the son from the dead. The message remains: God is a God of Life, not Death.

Reflections on Scripture
Jack Conroy, Ph.D.

Marriage Moment:

"Affliction produces endurance..." (Romans 5:3) Now that's not a happy thought! Who wants to suffer affliction? But, as much as we try to avoid physical or emotional pain, it happens. Share with your beloved a time that a hardship eventually made you stronger.

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open wide our hearts

the enduring call to love *a pastoral letter against racism*

The Call to Address Racism in Our Hearts and Communities

In their new pastoral letter against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, the Catholic bishops of the United States invite conversion of hearts, minds, and institutions in order to address the evil of racism that still exists in our communities.

By our baptism, we are members of Christ's body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of God. We know that the evil of racism cuts to the core of God's plan for humanity, devaluing the diversity God created within the human family. As followers of Christ, we seek to reclaim the God-given sanctity of each person's inviolable human dignity. The bishops remind us, "The command of love requires us to make room for others in our hearts. It means that we are indeed our brother's keeper (see Gn 4:9)."

Some among us may want to believe that our country has moved beyond the reality of racism that has so profoundly stained its past, or that racism does not involve us. Almost every day, news headlines demonstrate that our country's "original sin" of racism continues to impact the lives of many Americans, many of them Catholic—particularly those who belong to the African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native American communities.

There are signs that racism's legacies remain prevalent in many systemic inequalities that have deep impact on people of color. The bishops write, "Racism

can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality—economic and social—that we still see all around us."

"We read the headlines that report the killing of unarmed African Americans by law enforcement officials. In our prisons, the numbers of inmates of color, notably those who are brown and black, is grossly disproportionate. Despite the great blessings of liberty that this country offers, we must admit the plain truth that for many of our fellow citizens, who have done nothing wrong, interactions with the police are often fraught with fear and even danger."

— U.S. bishops, *Open Wide Our Hearts*

Within the walls of the Church, many people of color have experienced discrimination and outright racism. Leadership has been lacking. The bishops write, "All too often, leaders of the Church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others." Reflecting on these realities, the bishops implore us to find ways to actively work against the evil of racism. We must seek racial justice within our Church and in our country. Let us all allow the Holy Spirit to convert our hearts to do the work of healing, so we may live authentically in true relationship to one another. Let the fruit of this conversion be evident in our full celebration and integration of ethnic and cultural diversity, which is truly a gift from God.

How Can I Respond?

- (1) **Listen to and know the stories of our brothers and sisters who have suffered from racism in history, and in the present.** True and authentic encounter is difficult but worth the effort. Authentic relationships require vulnerability, humility, and getting outside of your comfort zones. For some, this will mean actively seeking opportunities to engage with people of diverse backgrounds. For others, this might mean raising your voice or sharing your story. Through authentic engagement we bring together diverse perspectives and experiences which honor the fullness of God's plan.
- (2) **Work to address both individual and systemic racism.** Racism can be individual, when persons fail to recognize certain groups as created in the image of God and equal in dignity, or it can be systemic, where practices or policies are upheld that treat certain groups of people unjustly. These systems are often perpetuated due to the silence or unawareness of many. Commit to learning more about [racism and employment](#), [housing](#), [wealth](#), [education](#), [criminal justice](#), and [voting](#)—and then get involved in diocesan, parish or community efforts to pray and work for conversion of both hearts and systems.
- (3) **Think about what you can do, wherever you are.** Commit to raising your awareness in whatever situations you find yourself.
 - a. **As people of faith**, we can intentionally work to create spaces of welcome and opportunities for encounter. Create opportunities for sharing of stories and learn how racism impacts our communities. Regularly think about whose voices may be missing as leaders and volunteers in parish ministry. In parishes and schools, educators can use activities from [usccb.org/racism](#) to integrate content on the pastoral letter into their lessons.
 - b. **In your family**, think about who you socialize with on a regular basis. Intentionally create opportunities to interact with those you may not run into over the normal course of your week. Where in your community do you see diverse groups of people come together? Parents: talk with your children about race. Continuing to talk with them about everyone's human dignity and the pain of racism in our country will help form them to respect the dignity of all. Find [prayers](#) for children at [usccb.org/racism](#).
 - c. **At school or work**, ask: How you can learn more about other cultures? What resources are available to you? If there are others who are treated differently because of their race, speak up. Think about what you might do if you hear someone make disparaging remarks about a classmate or coworker. How can you be ready to respond?
- (4) **As individuals and communities of faith, examine your conscience.** We all must ask ourselves: Where have I not lived as an example of Christ's love? Where have my attitudes or perceptions caused me to devalue persons of other cultures or ethnicities? When have I been unnecessarily suspicious or allowed a preconceived notion to overshadow the human nature of another? When have I seen the "other" instead of welcoming an opportunity to listen to the story of that person's life, struggles, or joys?

For More Information

Read the new pastoral letter, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love* and then talk with others about how your community can respond to the bishops' invitation in the pastoral letter. USCCB resources against racism are at [usccb.org/racism](#).



Catholic Community **HAPPENINGS**

Prayer for Safety During Hurricane Season: All are encouraged to pray for protection from the storms that often threaten Southwest Florida. The devastation of recent hurricanes reinforce the fact that we need to pray for God's protection and care.

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: Parishes face increased risk of financial shortfalls due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and its effects on everyday life. 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 happenings 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)

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