



# ST. JOHN XXIII

## Catholic Church

13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912 | P 239-561-2245 | F 239-561-3713 | [www.johnxxiii.net](http://www.johnxxiii.net)

**November 15, 2020**

# Adoption & Love

## Celebrate National Adoption Month

by: **Ryan Bomberger - The Christian Post**



*"God destined us for adoption as His children through JESUS CHRIST according to the good pleasure of His will."*

- Ephesians 1:5

November is National Adoption Month. But what is adoption? We often hear about it, particularly as one of two alternatives to the injustice of abortion. Millions of us are the recipients of this incredible gift, where our birthparent(s) turned the unplanned into a loving plan. Yet, there are still so many misconceptions about it.

Adoption happens because of brokenness. In the natural and the supernatural, this courageous act of love and selflessness helps to bring healing, hope and wholeness. It was God's plan to reconcile us to Himself as evidenced in Ephesians 1:4-5: "For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love He predestined us for adoption to sonship (or daughtership) through Jesus Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will."

There is no salvation without adoption. So, Christians, especially, should understand adoption in a deeply

spiritual and personal way. Adoption is the essence of salvation. In the natural, we shouldn't think of it as a last resort. Sometimes, it should be the first resort.

But the way we understand adoption skews the way we apply it in our society. Perhaps, it explains why there were only 110,373 adoptions in 2014 (the latest year reported by the National Council for Adoption, or NCFA) yet 926,200 abortions. In 2007, according to the same NCFA report, there were 133,737 adoptions. So, total adoptions in the U.S. have fallen. Part of the decline is due to a reduction in international adoptions, but the fact remains that the number of infant adoptions was only 18,329 and 57,397 children in foster care (in 2014) who were available for adoption weren't adopted. The most recent stats reveal that out of the 117,794 foster children available for adoption in 2016, 57,208 were thankfully adopted; 60,586 precious vulnerable children were not.

**Continued on Page 3**

**November 15, 2020**

## Please Note:

**There will be  
CONFESSIONS  
outside the church  
Every Saturday  
8:30am-9:00am  
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 CRM

frsimon@johnxxiii.net

### DEACON

Deacon Rich Klish

DeaconRich@johnxxiii.net

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday,  
8:00am-Noon & 1pm-4pm  
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 as well as weekend Holy Masses in the Church. We ask that you please wear a mask, bring sanitizer and practice social distancing. We will continue to livestream Masses on Facebook and the Website.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 8:00 AM † Brian Roehm by Joan & Skip Collins

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 8:00 AM † George & Marie Schade/Vern & Peggy Strauss by the family

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 8:00 AM † Paul Terise by Michael & Elizabeth Kane

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 8:00 AM † Lorraine Cooper by Bill & Barbara Catineau

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 8:00 AM † Mary Gionet by Norman Gionet

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 8:00 AM † Ben Bingcang by Marc & Lucy Bingcang
- 4:00 PM † Elizabeth Morris by Stella & Jim McCaffrey
- 8:00 PM - Vietnamese Mass

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:15 AM † Bob Marshall by his family
- 9:15 AM † Bill Dadio by Betty
- 11:15 AM † Carlo Hornsby by Kathleen & Alan Bouchard
- 1:30 PM † Alicia Torres by Glenys Navarro - Spanish Mass

### THE 2021 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN FOR JANUARY-JUNE

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 22, 2020 - READINGS

- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| • 1ST READING | EZ 34:11-12, 15-17  |
| • PSALM       | PS 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 |
| • 2ND READING | 1 COR 15:20-26, 28  |
| • GOSPEL      | MT 25:31-46         |



You can contribute  
to Deacon Francis'  
family and support  
Stacey and Will.

[www.gofundme.com/f/for-stacey-and-willfor-francis-head](http://www.gofundme.com/f/for-stacey-and-willfor-francis-head)



### 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

#### Bookkeeper

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239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

#### Coordinator of

##### Parishioner Engagement

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jennifer@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

#### Bulletin Editor

Colleen Leavy

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239-561-2245

#### Coordinator of Youth

##### Ministries

Kelly Evers

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239-561-3022

#### Thrift Store Manager

Cynthia Conzatti

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

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239-561-7499

##### Office Assistant

Brenda Gregory

brenda@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

##### Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange

blange@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

## Adoption CONTINUED

No child should languish in foster care. No mother should feel that the violence of abortion is even an option. Our pregnancy centers, in all of the incredible frontline work they do to protect mothers, fathers and their children, aren't enough to create a culture that values Life and encourages adoption. Our churches must do a better job leading in the defense of Life, at its most vulnerable, in what the Book of James declares as pure religion: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

Although the United States is not engaged in a militaristic war within our borders, we have a cultural and spiritual war that has caused more casualties than all of our military wars—combined. There have been over 60 million killed since abortion was "legalized" in this country. Roe v. Wade never empowered women. It empowers men to have sex and run. This has led to a massive culture of abandonment where women are effectively left behind as widows, and children in the womb are orphaned by both the absent father and the mother who has chosen to give into the distress caused by pro-abortion propaganda. The pollution of this world is the warped belief system that others, not the Author of Life, can determine your worth. We allow our minds and hearts to be polluted by the lie that we aren't created with purpose and that we can't be stronger than our circumstances. I don't know about you, but I serve the God of the Impossible. I've living proof of the impossible becoming possible. My birthmom was raped yet bravely rejected the violence of abortion, choosing Life and adoption, instead. Philippians 4:13 proclaims: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The same Christ who was humanly "unplanned". In fact, I was recently struck as I read Matthew 1:1-16 about the birth of Christ. I have read this many times throughout my life, but something profound happened to me this time. It's not Mary's genealogy that is detailed in the opening chapter. It is the genealogy of the man who would become Jesus' adoptive father—Joseph. Christ's lineage was drawn from a man who was not genetically tied to him, at all. The paradigm of adoption was revealed in a courageous teen mother with a humanly unplanned pregnancy (certainly Divinely planned), a father who chose to love rather than to leave, and a Savior who would sacrifice himself in order to offer redemption, adoption and transformation to those who confess and believe.

Adoption is courageous and messy and joyful and mysterious and loving. We need to uplift all of those in this beautiful triad—the birthmom/birthdad, adoptee and adoptive family. No one's pretending it's easy. Parenting biological children isn't easy, unless I missed the memo that genetically-related children present no problems in life.

Adoption doesn't just change the child. It changes the family, the community, and sometimes...the world. Look at the late CEO of Apple, Steve Jobs. He was adopted and loved, too. And he, inarguably, changed the world.

This November, and every month, may we rethink false narratives on adoption. May we look at this act for what it is...transformative love. I'm a firm believer that there's always a 'plan' in the 'unplanned'. What we don't see from a human perspective, God knows from a Divine perspective. We're meant to be, regardless of the circumstances of our conception, regardless of our real or perceived abilities or disabilities, regardless of what others think we contribute to this world. We have equal and irrevocable worth simply because we exist. And adoption is a powerful and culture-changing way to unleash that God-given Purpose.



### *For more information:*

Whether you are pregnant or hope to adopt, please visit Florida Adoption Support for Life at [www.adoption.com](http://www.adoption.com) or call 1-800-236-7898



## PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

*Heavenly Father,  
Please bless our families  
with Your love and protect  
us from harm. Give us  
grace to forgive, strength  
to overcome the difficulties  
we face, and keep us  
together when the world  
tries to pull us apart.*

*In Jesus Name,*

*Amen.*



## 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  
Gary Neubauer  
Tom Biedak  
Curtis Atkins  
Jim Heron  
Barbara Shay  
Gregg Evans  
Henry Martinez  
Bill Becker  
Carlos Martinez  
Fr. Ed Przygocki

Kevin Natella  
Marilyn Kelley  
Dan Pieper  
James Heaney  
Steven Dakin  
Neil Soeder  
Gene Damm  
C. Tony Navy  
Anthony Navy  
Lou Rescino  
Nancy Wirick  
Diane Distler  
Linda Sayres  
Sue & Craig Edwards  
Baby Henry Patrick Koch  
Anna Acini  
Pauline Reid

**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 [epayer.stjohn23@gmail.com](mailto:epayer.stjohn23@gmail.com)

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!*

**John Lombardi  
Raymond Marr  
Lenore Maurillo  
Josephine King**



### Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **Baby Luke**  
Requested by: **Great Aunt**



### Memorial Flowers

In Memory of: **Christine Saliga Sullivan**  
Requested by: **her husband Michael**





## WATCH ON FACEBOOK

### DAILY MASS

**8:00am** Monday - Saturday

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 4:00pm with Fr. Angelo
- 8:00pm Vietnamese Mass

<https://www.facebook.com/fort.myers.5454>

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 11:15am with Fr. Saji
- 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**



PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING YOUR

*Online Gift*



<https://johnxxiii.net/giving/>

## WELCOME

### *New Parishioners*

- Diane Newman
- Charles & Karen Benson
- Martin Savino
- David & Ruth Ell

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. 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 Sunday, November 15th after the 11:15am Mass.**

This is your opportunity to become informed and active members of the parish. 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](http://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  
Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army  
82nd ABN  
Lt. Ross Walker, US Navy  
PFC Eric Lyons, USMC  
2LT Nicholas Meunier US Army





## Faith Formation

Contact **Chris Biel** | 561-7499 | [chrisdre@johnxxiii.net](mailto:chrisdre@johnxxiii.net)



### FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE:

The next **WEDNESDAY Faith Formation Class** will be held **NOVEMBER 18**

The next **SUNDAY Family Faith Formation Class** will be held **DECEMBER 6**

### 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 seeing light in your heart when  
all your eyes can see is darkness.*

## ADULT FAITH

## Education

Keep in TOUCH with your *Faith* ONLINE:

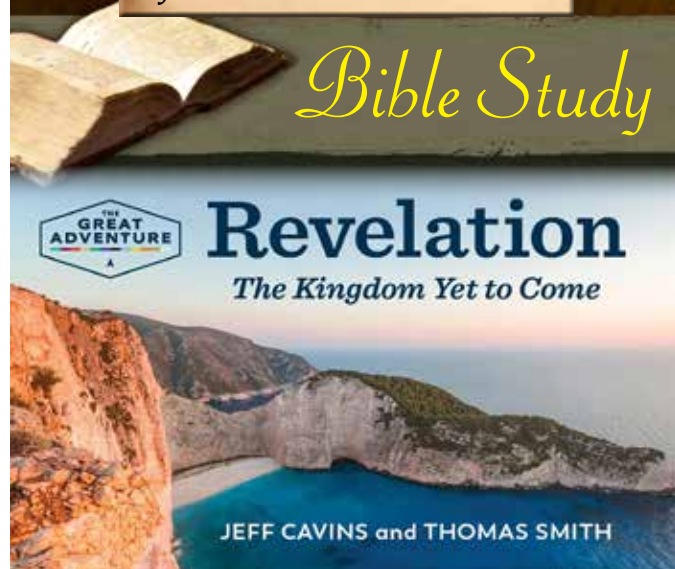
### OPENING THE WORD

### 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 **Linda Stanley** at: [lindastanley.ls@gmail.com](mailto:lindastanley.ls@gmail.com) for more information.

### JOIN US ONLINE



Perhaps no book in the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied the book, especially from a Catholic perspective.

We will meet on Zoom, Tuesdays from **6:30-8pm through November 24**

To join our study, go to [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com) and sign in or sign up (if you don't have an account). On your Menu dropdown select **Join a Study**, and select St. John XXIII and order your workbook.

### CONTACT:

**Edith Trafford** - [lancith@aol.com](mailto:lancith@aol.com)



Coordinator of Youth Ministries **561-3022 xt 107**  
Contact **Kelly Evers** | [kelly@johnxxiii.net](mailto: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

- **November 29** is the the next Confirmation preparation class. Year 1 will be studying Church History. Year two will be working on how to "Share our faith with others". Please watch your email for parent and sponsor at home discussion questions as well as in person and zoom offering choices.

### High School Youth Group

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

- REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED. All High school students are welcome and encouraged to attend. We hope to move this offering to an in-person ministry as soon as it is safe to do so. The sessions will be on the Zoom app. Please email Kelly for invitation link.
- **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15:** Attitude of Gratitude
- **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22:** NO SESSION

### Middle School Youth Group

**MSYG Sessions** - Wednesdays 6pm to 7:15pm

- REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED at this time. We will host this program on **Wednesday evenings at 6pm** via the Zoom app. Please check the website under the education tab in the Middle School Youth ministry for more information and email Kelly for link to the Zoom invitation.
- **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18:** Attitude of Gratitude

### Volunteer Opportunitites

- For at home Youth Volunteer Opportunities please email Kelly Evers



## *Hispanic Ministry* **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### *Misas en Español*

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

### *Rezo del Santo Rosario*

(Antes de la misa los domingos)

- Lugar: Iglesia Católica St. John XXIII
- Hora: 12:50pm
- Fecha: Todos los domingos del mes.

### *Rezo del Santo Rosario* (Via Zoom)

- Lugar: Video conferencia a través de Zoom
- Hora: 6:00pm
- Fecha: Todos los martes del mes.

### *Charlas pre Bautismales*

- Lugar: Iglesia Católica St. John XXIII
- Hora: 10:00am
- Fecha: Todos primeros sabados del mes.

NOTA: Registrarse previamente enviando un email al correo: [comunidadhispana@johnxxiii.net](mailto:comunidadhispana@johnxxiii.net)

### *Contactanos*

- Para más información sobre el link del rezo del Santo Rosario vía Zoom o preguntas relacionado al ministerio hispano, por favor dejarnos saber al correo [comunidadhispana@johnxxiii.net](mailto:comunidadhispana@johnxxiii.net)
- Visítenos en [www.facebook.com/ministeriohispano.sanjuan.1](https://www.facebook.com/ministeriohispano.sanjuan.1)



**INQUIRY ZOOM MEETINGS:**  
**THURSDAY - 6:30PM**

**Nov. 19:** The Blessed Trinity

**Nov. 26:** NO SESSION - Thanksgiving

**Dec. 3:** Advent

**Dec. 10:** Mass (Walk Through)

**Dec. 25 & 31:** NO SESSION - Christmas

For more information, please call or text **GINNY WHELAN** at **(239) 634-3239** or email: [vwhehan99@gmail.com](mailto:vwhehan99@gmail.com)





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](http://johnxxiii.podbean.com)
- **Like our Facebook Page:** For all the latest happenings, search "St. John XXIII Catholic Church" and "like" our page.
- **Our Weekly Newsletter:** Visit our website, [johnxxiii.net](http://johnxxiii.net), scroll down to "Stay Connected" and enter your email address.
- **Download Our Parish App:** Download our app today at [myparishapp.com](http://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/>
- **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!
- **Daily Mass:** Due to the lighting project, the 8:00am Mass is taking place temporarily Monday-Saturday in the Parish Life Center. Please wear a mask, bring sanitizer and practice social distancing.
- **Low Gluten Hosts:** If you are interested in receiving low gluten hosts at Mass, please see a Sacristan to make a request.
- **Non-Perishable Donations:** Please consider donating items to St. Martin DePorres or The St. John XXIII Villas to help people in need during this pandemic.
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm & Saturday 8:30am-4pm. The Chapel will be open Thanksgiving from 8:30am-12pm and Friday, November 27th from 8:30am-9pm. For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry visit: [johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/](http://johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/)
- **St. John XXIII Thrift Store:** Hours are Monday-Friday 10am-5pm and Saturday 10am-4pm. For more information email [thrift@johnxxiii.net](mailto:thrift@johnxxiii.net)
- **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](mailto:holdenbnd@gmail.com) or call Dick at (239) 463-3993
- **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
- **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

# Thank You!



MIKE AND KAY MULLIN

We would like to wish a grateful thank you to Mike and Kay Mullin for serving at our parish for many years. In the past, Mike led the Parish Advisory Council and Strategic Planning Committee. Kay offered her time and talent as a Sacristan and Eucharistic Minister and volunteered at the Thrift Store. They both stepped up to assist at our parish numerous times. Kay and Mike are moving from our area of Fort Myers, but not from our hearts. They will always have a home here at St. John XXIII. God bless them on their journey.

## BAPTISMS HAVE RESUMED

St. John XXIII has resumed offering the sacrament of Baptism to interested families. Currently, we are scheduling baptisms for one family at a time. During the service, we are observing CDC guidelines such as: wearing masks, practicing social distancing and other precautions.

If you are interested in having your child baptized, please email either **Chris Biel** at [chrisdre@johnxxiii.net](mailto:chrisdre@johnxxiii.net) or **Trisha Fields** at [trisha@johnxxiii.net](mailto:trisha@johnxxiii.net) or call (239) 561-2245



## A LETTER FROM

# Bishop Frank Dewane

NOVEMBER 2020

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, my prayer is that the strength of the Holy Spirit will renew and deepen our Faith in Jesus Christ. Particularly, as together we face the difficult challenges that the Coronavirus has brought, I call upon the intercession of Our Blessed Mother for the safety and health of you and your family.

It may be recalled that in October of 2018, I shared with you that the then-Attorney General of Florida, Pam Bondi, ordered an investigation of how the seven Dioceses in Florida have handled allegations of misconduct involving minors by clergy. With the full cooperation of the Diocese of Venice, the investigation was thoroughly conducted through the Office of the Statewide Prosecutor, who requested specific clergy files. As a result, a list of priests who had been accused of a substantiated allegation of a sexual offense against minors has been issued by the Statewide Prosecutor. This listing of priests accused of misconduct in Florida is the final action to be taken and the State investigation has been concluded.

Included on the State's list are nine priests who were incardinated in the Diocese of Venice against whom substantiated allegations have been identified in the investigation. None of the priests listed presently have faculties (allowed to minister) in the Diocese. Some have died, some have been laicized or dismissed from clerical state, and others have had their priestly faculties permanently removed. When the investigation was announced in 2018, it was not precipitated by any new allegation of abuse. The investigation involved historic cases.

As your Bishop, I wish to express compassion and my continual prayer for all victims of child sexual abuse and that each receive God's healing and peace. The harm done is grave. On behalf of the Church, I ask forgiveness of those who have been harmed by Clergy or others involved with the Church. The Diocese remains committed to the Policy for the Protection of Children and I am pleased that the Statewide Prosecutor's report recognizes that the Diocese has followed its policies.

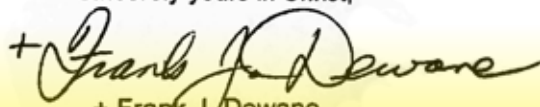
The Statewide Prosecutor's Report is a sad reminder of the harm done in the past to minors by those who had been ordained to serve the Church and care for the Faithful. Be reassured that the investigation did not uncover previously unknown cases in the Diocese of Venice. The commitment the Diocese made in accord with the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People has proven effective and helpful in protecting our children, young people and vulnerable adults.

This moment also allows for me to once again encourage all who have been abused to report it to Department of Children and Families and if it involves clergy of the Diocese of Venice, to contact also the Diocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator. The Diocese takes every report of abuse seriously and responds promptly.

Humbly, I invite all to continue to pray for the victims of child sexual abuse. Pray also for the Church's efforts to protect our children and foster a safe environment for all.

May Almighty God bless you and your family, through Christ our Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
+ Frank J. Dewane  
Bishop of the Diocese of  
Venice in Florida





# Online Giving



ST. JOHN XXIII  
Catholic Church

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

Dear Parishioners,

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](mailto:info@johnxxiii.net)

God Bless,

Father Bob Tabbert



## Giving has never been easier!





ST. JOHN XXIII  
Catholic Church

## Weekly Financials



| NO UPDATE           | 11-01-20    | 11-03-19    | Difference    |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Offertory           | \$25,040.00 | \$35,416.00 | (\$10,376.00) |
| Building Fund       | \$1,861.00  | \$6,153.00  | (\$4,292.00)  |
| Total               | \$26,901.00 | \$41,569.00 | (\$14,668.00) |
| Mass Attendance     | 1571        | 3421        |               |
| Registered Families | 3625        | 3719        |               |

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 - NO UPDATE

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 2020 Goal       | \$492,000.00 |
| Pledge          | \$482,200.99 |
| % of Goal       | 98.01%       |
| % of Households | 21.35%       |
| Payments        | \$460,822.69 |

## 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](mailto:holly@johnxxiii.net)**



## CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL



**The Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA)** is an annual opportunity for every member of our Faith family to support the life-changing work and outreach programs of the Diocese of Venice. The programs and services assisted by the CFA, make a meaningful impact on the lives of individuals, families and communities. By supporting the CFA, you share in the work of Christ and the grace of Catholic discipleship. Remember, **"The generous will be blessed, for they share ... with the poor"** (Proverbs 22:9).

### GIFT SUGGESTIONS:

- **CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD** can be used for a one-time gift or a monthly amount. Please visit [www.dioceseofvenice.org](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org) and click on Catholic Faith Appeal Donate Now.
- **CHECK** made payable to Catholic Faith Appeal with St John XXIII in the memo can be placed in the white envelopes in the Narthex and the donation will be sent to the Catholic Faith Appeal.
- **GIFT OF SECURITIES** - Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of the appreciated securities on the date of your gift.
- **IRA** - In 2020 the law changed, requiring those 72 years and older to begin taking a required minimum distribution (RMD) from their individual retirement account (IRA). However, only those who will turn 70½ (born on or after July 1, 1949) in 2020 or later may wait until age 72 to begin taking required distributions. If you are currently receiving RMDs (or should be) because you are over age 70½, you must continue taking these RMDs. For traditional accounts this income is taxable! To avoid paying taxes on this income while also meeting the obligation of the RMD, you may designate the distribution as a gift directly from the IRA custodian to the CFA. You can donate up to \$100,000 and married couples can donate up to \$200,000 if the spouse has a separate IRA.



# Welcome to Church

New Parishioner Orientation  
Sunday, Novement 15 after the 11:15am Mass  
in Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel



**INAUGURAL K of C**  
Charity Golf Tournament

***Thank You!***

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone who participated in the Inaugural K of C Charity Golf Tournament that took place on Friday, October 30th.



# ANGEL TREE

## 2020 GIFT/FOOD REQUESTS

Hundreds of needy children, as well as veterans, seniors and homebound, have nothing at Christmas if not for the gifts provided them by our Angel Tree Program.

Our low in-person Mass attendance simply cannot support our traditional Angel Tree Program that provides 1000+ Christmas gifts. Rather than disappoint the people who depend on us, we have modified our 2020 Angel Tree Program to reflect the following giving opportunity:

### CHECK OR CASH DONATIONS: **Please Submit by December 1**

- Parishioners may make a donation in any amount that they can afford to support the 600+ children from St. Martin de Porres Outreach, as well as many families in need.
- Please make Checks payable to St. John XXIII Church (with "Angel Tree" in the Memo portion). They may be placed in the Box in the Narthex, or mailed to St. John XXIII Church, 13060 Palomino Lane, Ft. Myers, FL 33912, to be **received by December 1, 2020**
- Your donations will be converted into a \$25 Gift Card for each child or needy adult, to the store of their choice.

### ONE ANGEL TREE FOR VETERANS & ELDERLY

- One Traditional Angel Tree will be in the Narthex. It will be limited to gift requests from veterans in retirement homes, seniors from Catholic Charities, and our parish homebound. These are individuals who are unable to shop for themselves.

These are unprecedented times for all of us, and we rely on the generosity of those who can afford to do so, to help the less fortunate among us. We also recognize that we have registered Parishioners who are unemployed and in need of assistance themselves. If you are in this group, please complete the request form below.

### ACTIVE REGISTERED PARISHIONERS

TO EXPEDITE: Please email request to [Stellamccaffrey@aol.com](mailto:Stellamccaffrey@aol.com)

#### ST. JOHN XXIII - 2020 GIFT/FOOD REQUEST FORM

|                         |                |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Last/First Name:</b> | <b>Phone #</b> | <b>E-mail:</b> |
| <br>                    | <br>           | <br>           |

**(Please check ALL that apply):**

☐ **Food for Thanksgiving** (Pick-up at Parish Life Center on Monday, November 23 from 1-3pm)

☐ **Food for Christmas** (Pick-up at Parish Life Center on Monday, December 21 from 1-3pm)

☐ **Christmas Gifts** (Pick-up at Parish Life Center on Monday, December 21 from 1-3pm)

**Total Number in my Family** \_\_\_\_\_





## Bereavement Outreach

DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

### "THERE IS HOPE"

A workshop focusing on surviving the holidays without your loved one and difficulties of isolation during the pandemic with:  
**Deacon Henry deMena**



**Sunday, Nov. 15 | Our Lady of the Angels Parish**  
3 pm - 4:30 pm in Sacred Heart Hall  
12905 E State Rd 70, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

**Monday, Nov. 16 | St. Agnes Parish**  
3 pm - 4:30 pm  
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Rd, Naples, FL 34120

**Sunday, Dec. 6 | Epiphany Cathedral**  
3 pm - 4:30 pm  
310 Sarasota St, Venice, FL 34285



**Thursday, Dec. 10 | Our Lady of Light**  
4 pm - 5:30 pm  
19680 Cypress View Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33967

**Sunday, Dec. 13 | San Marco Parish**  
3 pm - 4:30 pm  
851 San Marco Rd, Marco Island, FL 34145

NO COST OR NO REGISTRATION NEEDED  
For more information, please contact Carrie Harkey  
[Harkey@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:Harkey@dioceseofvenice.org) or call (941) 484-9543



SWFL'S PREMIER DINNER THEATRE  
**BROADWAYPALM**

Support and join St. John XXIII Women's Guild  
on **SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 6** for dinner  
and a show at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre.

IRVING BERLIN'S

**Holiday**  
**INN**

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6**

The heart-warming story follows Jim as he leaves the bright lights of show business to settle down in a farmhouse in Connecticut. When Jim meets a spirited schoolteacher with a hidden talent to spare, they turn a farmhouse into a fabulous inn that is only open on the holidays. Based on the 1942 film starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire, hear Irving Berlin classics Shaking the Blues Away, Blue Skies, Easter Parade and White Christmas.

The Broadway Palm is adhering to all CDC guidelines. Masks are required while you are not sitting at your table and strongly recommend while not eating or drinking. Please see Broadway Palm website for all changes for social distancing at: [www.broadwaypalm.com/covid-19-safety-measures/](http://www.broadwaypalm.com/covid-19-safety-measures/)

**TICKET PRICE**  
**\$60 EACH**

**DINING ROOM OPENS AT 5:30PM**  
**SHOW STARTS AT 7PM**

(As this is a fundraising event, tickets are non-refundable)

For more information: **LOIS BECKER (239) 826-2558** or [lasftmyers@embarqmail.com](mailto:lasftmyers@embarqmail.com)



# Craftie Ladies

## ORDER REQUESTS

### *Place an Order:*

Please contact **Judy Siegel** at: **(239) 437-4978** or **(414) 529-4978** and she will channel your request to the right Craftie Lady who makes the item. They will then contact you and set up a meet time. **ONLY CASH** will be accepted.

For other questions or inquiries, please email us at: **[craftieladiesxxiii@gmail.com](mailto:craftieladiesxxiii@gmail.com)**





## Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

**Diocese of Venice Virtual Catholic Concerts** Enjoy the remaining concerts by live-streaming them on Fridays, November 13th & 20th from 12pm-12:30pm at: [www.facebook.com/DioceaseofVenice/videos/](http://www.facebook.com/DioceaseofVenice/videos/)

**Surviving Divorce Facilitator Training** Friday, November 20th (10:30am - 2:30pm) This training session is ONLY for priests, deacons and parish staff/volunteers. Cost is \$10. Register online at: [www.dioceaseofvenice.org/divorce](http://www.dioceaseofvenice.org/divorce) For more information: Carrie Harkey (941) 484-9543 ext. 3019 or email: [harkey@dioceaseofvenice.org](mailto:harkey@dioceaseofvenice.org)

**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

**Sign Up Now:** The Florida Catholic e-Edition will be FREE for the next year! Keep up to date on the latest news from across the Diocese by signing up now for the weekly digital paper to be sent directly to your inbox at <https://dioceaseofvenice.org/news/>

**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://dioceaseofvenice.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](http://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

**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@dioceaseofvenice.org](mailto:project.rachel@dioceaseofvenice.org) or visit: [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com)

**Spiritual Adoption Program:** You are invited to register to spiritually adopt an unborn child in danger of abortion. Visit [www.dioceaseofvenice.org/offices/respect-life/spiritual-adoption-program](http://www.dioceaseofvenice.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@dioceaseofvenice.org](mailto:Berdeaux@dioceaseofvenice.org)

**Novena of Masses for Life:** Participate in a Mass near you and pray for life! Visit [www.dioceaseofvenice.org/respectlife](http://www.dioceaseofvenice.org/respectlife) for the monthly schedule of Novena of Masses for Life.

**Treatment Center for Teens:** This treatment center is 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

**Witnessing the Faith:** Listen to Bishop Dewane on Relevant Florida Radio the last Friday of every month at 8:30am. Listen anywhere at [RelevantRadio.com](http://RelevantRadio.com)

## RESPECT LIFE

### WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED:

"Walking with Moms in Need" is designed to educate parishes about community resources for pregnant moms. If you would like more information please visit: [www.walkingwithmoms.com](http://www.walkingwithmoms.com)

### FEDERAL EXECUTIONS:

The Federal government has resumed Federal executions due to many prisoners on death row. This is still a very difficult subject for many Catholics. To learn more information, please visit [www.catholicismobilizingnetwork.org](http://www.catholicismobilizingnetwork.org)

### DISABILITIES OUTREACH:

If there is anyone you know who has a particular interest in helping persons with disabilities and their caregivers please contact Jeanne Berdeaux at [Berdeaux@dioceaseofvenice.org](mailto:Berdeaux@dioceaseofvenice.org)

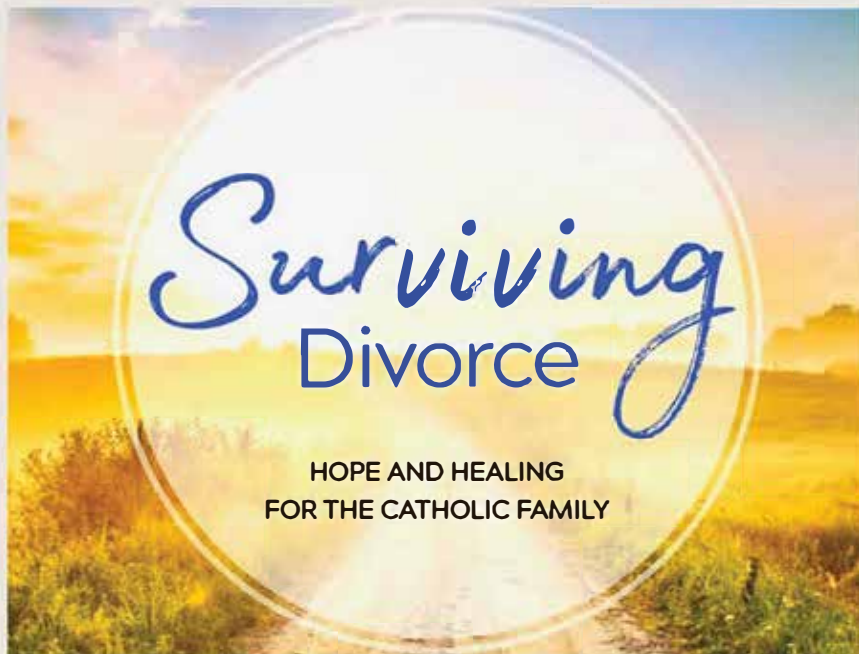
### MENTAL HEALTH:

Drug addiction and mental health issues have steadily increased as a result of Covid, especially among young adults and the elderly. If you or someone you know is suffering, please call **1-800-950-NAMI(6264)** or text NAMI to 741741. More information is available at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

### CONTACT US:

The Respect Life Ministry is open to all who are interested in learning about LIFE issues from conception to natural death. If you would like to be kept up to date please join our email list at at: [respectlifejohn23@gmail.com](mailto:respectlifejohn23@gmail.com)





Featuring Speaker  
Rose Sweet!

# Surviving Divorce Retreat

A RETREAT OPEN TO ALL

21 November | 9AM-3PM |

Resurrection Parish Hall

8121 Cypress Lake Dr., Ft. Myers, FL

\$15 per person

Continental Breakfast & Lunch will be served

**REGISTER AT: [www.dioceseofvenice.org/divorce](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/divorce)**

Contact

Carrie Harkey at [harkey@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:harkey@dioceseofvenice.org)  
with any questions.

Diocese of Venice  
Office of Marriage & Family Life

