



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

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

December 13, 2020



Joy

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

***"He will be a joy and delight to you, and
many will rejoice because of his birth, for
He will be great in the sight of the Lord."***

- LUKE 1:14-15

December 13, 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, DECEMBER 14

- 8:00 AM † Dave O'Conner & Clayton Montpetit by Joyce Landreville

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 8:00 AM ♥/† Living & Deceased Members of Craftie Ladies

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 8:00 AM † Marguerite Hassel by Francis

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 8:00 AM † Richard Setti by Carol & Nicholas Hahn

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 8:00 AM † Stephen Gagnon by The Ogan Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 8:00 AM † Melanie Heuer by The St. John XXIII Women's Guild
- 4:00 PM † Louise Jackson & Harold Downs by William Jackson & Dorothy Downs Jackson
- 8:00 PM - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 7:15 AM † James & Mark Buck by wife/mother, Doris Buck
- 9:15 AM † Arlene Brummer by Diane Griffin
- 11:15 AM † Rosamond Verruto by John & Claire
- 1:30 PM † Maria Otero by Thomas Otero - 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.

DECEMBER 20, 2020 - READINGS

- 1ST READING 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16
- PSALM PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
- 2ND READING ROM 16:25-27
- GOSPEL LK 1:26-38

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Now available in the Amazon Shopping app on your iPhone

St. John XXIII Charity Link:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-4893911>

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

Ana Thompson

ana@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Receptionist

MaryAnn Deas

maryann@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Jennifer Baumgardner

jennb@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Coordinator of

Parishioner Engagement

Jennifer Engelman

jennifer@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Bulletin Editor

Colleen Leavy

bulletineditor@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Coordinator of Youth

Ministries

Kelly Evers

kelly@johnxxiii.net

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:

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 JOY OF ADVENT

Prepare Your Heart

by: **Hannah Brockhaus - Catholic News Agency**

During Advent, we should prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus like we joyfully prepare our homes for a visit from a family member or friend, Pope Francis said Sunday, especially removing anything keeping us from Christ.

“When we await at home a visit from a loved one, we prepare everything with care and happiness. In the same way we want to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord: to wait for him every day with solicitude, to be filled with his grace when he comes,” the pope said this December.

In his weekly Angelus address, Francis reflected on the day’s first reading from Isaiah, which says to “make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low.”

The pope pointed out that the valleys in this passage can represent our sins of omission, such as failing to pray, or praying very little. The valleys could also be the ways we have failed to have charity toward others, especially those most in need of material or spiritual help.

In Advent, “we are called to be more attentive to the needs of others, those closest (to us). Like John the Baptist, in this way we can open roads of hope in the desert of the dry hearts of many people,” he said.

Therefore, Advent is a good time to fill these valleys in our life, he said; to pray more intensely, to prioritize your spiritual life.

On the other hand, when the verse says, “every mountain and every hill be lowered,” we are reminded of our faults of pride, arrogance and superiority, which must become attitudes of meekness and humility, just like our Savior is “meek and humble of heart.”

Then, when we’ve examined our conscience, “we are asked to eliminate all the obstacles we put into our union with the Lord” with joy, he said, because we are preparing for the coming of our Savior.

“The Savior we are waiting for is able to transform our life with the power of the Holy Spirit, with the power of love. Indeed, the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts the love of God, an inexhaustible source of purification, of new life and freedom,” Francis said.

May the Virgin Mary, he concluded, who prepared for the coming of Christ with her whole being and existence, “help us to follow her example and guide our steps to meet the Lord who is coming.”

“Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again: rejoice!
Let everyone see that you are considerate in all
you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.”

- Philippians 4:4-5

ADVENT PRAYER

3ND SUNDAY

Aware of the Joy

Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas.

Amen

Advent

RECONCILIATION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15
 Our Advent Reconciliation Service with Individual Confession is at **7pm** in the church.



"Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned."

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
 Fr. Ed Przygocki
 Kevin Natella
 Marilyn Kelley
 Dan Pieper
 James Heaney
 Steven Dakin
 Neil Soeder
 Gene Damm

C. Tony Navy
 Anthony Navy
 Lou Rescinetto
 Nancy Wirick
 Linda Sayres
 Sue & Craig Edwards
 Baby Henry Patrick Koch
 Anna Acini
 Pauline Reid
 Katie Cassidy
 Margarita Muratore
 Larry Waldsmith
 Denny Uhlik
 Caroline Ann Toussaint
 Ron Hudepohl
 Donna Hart
 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 eprayer.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!*

Tom Lange



Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Gerald Snyder**
 Requested by: **Lillian**



Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **Msgr. Paul Reynolds**
 Requested by: **The Harley's**





WATCH ON FACEBOOK

DAILY MASS

8:00am Monday - Saturday

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

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

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 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



PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING YOUR

Online Gift



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

WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Yvelor & Carmen Sully
- Brad & Melissa Shipley
- David & Kristen Spina
- Martin & Raquel Bello

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 next **New Parishioner Orientation on Sunday, January 17, 2021 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

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



Faith Formation

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



FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE:

The next WEDNESDAY Faith Formation Class will be held **DECEMBER 16**

The next SUNDAY Family Faith Formation Class will be held **JANUARY 10**

PLEASE NOTE: Due to covid, the pageant portion at the Children's 4pm Christmas Eve Mass will not take place.

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 for more information.

JOIN US ONLINE



The Bible Timeline

The Story of Salvation

JEFF CAVINS, SARAH CHRISTMYER, and TIM GRAY

The Bible Timeline® Study Program takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins, shows you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and gives you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven through Scripture.

We will meet on Zoom, Tuesdays from 6:30-8pm from January 12 through March 30, 2021 for the first 12 weeks. The next 12 weeks will be scheduled in Fall 2021.

To join our study, go to 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



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.

- **PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the current pandemic, Rooted has been cancelled until further notice.



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

Confirmation Program

Preparation Class - Sunday 5pm to 7pm

- **December 13** is the next Confirmation preparation class. Both year 1 & Year 2 will meet in the church for a Eucharist Retreat and church tour. 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 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, DECEMBER 13:** Mandatory Eucharist Retreat (5pm to 7pm)

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.
- **Classes will resume January 6 through Zoom.**

Volunteer Opportunites

- 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

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
- Visítenos en www.facebook.com/ministeriohispano.sanjuan.1

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

INQUIRY ZOOM MEETINGS:
THURSDAY - 6:30PM

Dec. 24 & 31: NO SESSION - Christmas/
New Year's Eve

For more information, please call or text
GINNY WHELAN at (239) 634-3239 or email:
vwhelan99@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
- **Like our Facebook Page:** For all the latest happenings, search "St. John XXIII Catholic Church" and "like" our page.
- **Our Weekly Newsletter:** Visit <https://www.johnxxiii.net/e-newsletter-sign-up/> and enter your email address.
- **Download Our Parish App:** 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/>
- **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, please see a Sacristan to make a request.
- **Non-Perishable Donations:** Please consider bringing nonperishable items to church each week to be given to food pantries in our area.
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm & Saturday 8:30am-3pm. For more information visit: 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
- **Keep Our Database Current:** Have you moved, changed email addresses, dropped a landline or changed your cell number? Please email maryann@johnxxiii.net with any changes or additions to your contact information.
- **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. For more information email: holdenbd@gmail.com or call Dick at (239) 463-3993
- **Craftie Ladies Order Requests:** Please contact Judy Siegel at: (239) 437-4978 or email craftieladiesxxiii@gmail.com
- **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

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 or **Trisha Fields** at trisha@johnxxiii.net or call (239) 561-2245



Knights of Columbus

WHAT'S NEW?

Thank You!

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone for a successful Thanksgiving food collection. The canned vegetables were greatly appreciated! Our next food collection for St. Martin DePorres will take place on **January 16th** from **1-3pm** in the church. Thank you for your help during these trying times.



*Pictured are Brother Knights **Larry Evener** and **Paul Buldak** from the Knights of Columbus.*



Guardian Angels

WALKWAY

PAVER MEMORIALIZATION



St. John XXIII Parish, along with the Knights of Columbus and The Women's Guild, are excited to offer **12x12 pavers**, which will be placed on the walkway around the site for our St. Michael the Archangel statue. **The price for each paver is \$350.** This is a wonderful way to pay tribute to a loved one who has served, or is currently serving in the military or as a first responder.

Defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, Oh Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Guardian Angels WALKWAY

Name _____

Address or PO Box _____

Unit/Apt # _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Payments may be made by cash, credit card or check.

I would like to pay by:

CASH CHECK CREDIT CARD

If paying by check, please make checks payable to the Knights of Columbus.

To order, or check the status of an order, please contact The Knights of Columbus:

LARRY EVENER: larryevener@yahoo.com or

TOM DOLAN: mtd0522@yahoo.com

The Women's Guild Contact:

SUE EDWARDS: sgedwards007@gmail.com

PAVER ORDER FORM

Please circle the graphic to be added to the stone:



Please print clearly. The 12x12 paver has 3 lines.

LINE 1 NAME _____

example: John Doe

LINE 2 RANK _____

example: SGT. USMC

LINE 3 SERVICE _____

example: WWII

Please sign and date verifying all information is correct on the paver.

PRINT NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____



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.

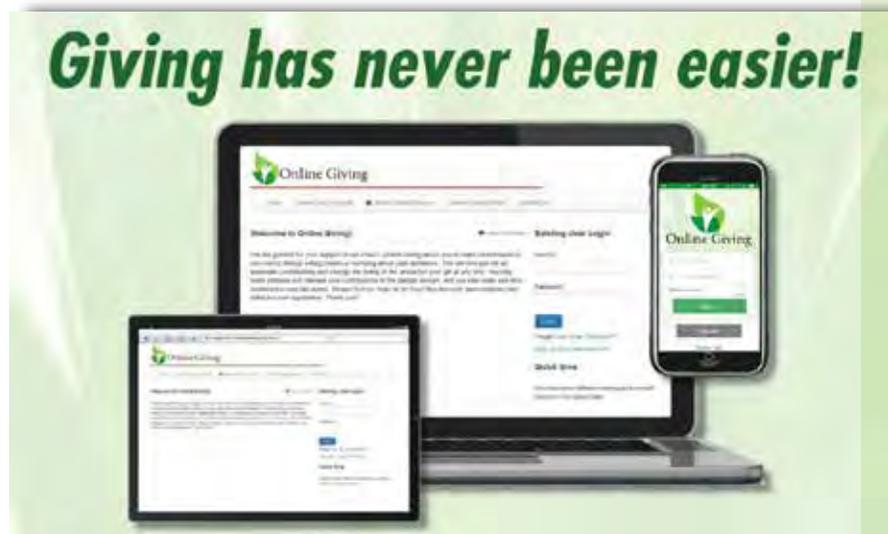
START GIVING ONLINE TODAY!

- 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

God Bless,

Father Bob Tabbert





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



	11-29-20	12-01-19	Difference
Offertory	\$20,743.00	\$25,005.00	(\$4,262.00)
Building Fund	\$1,990.00	\$2,996.00	(\$1,006.00)
Total	\$22,733.00	\$28,001.00	(\$5,268.00)
Mass Attendance	1421	3427	
Registered Families	3635	3737	

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	\$515,636.99
% of Goal	104.80%
% of Households	21.77%
Payments	\$502,832.59

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



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 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.



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Advent & Christmas

SCHEDULE 2020

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:00pm Advent Reconciliation Service
with Individual Confessions

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:30am - 9:30am Individual Confessions

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGIES

4:00pm Mass
6:30pm Mass
9:00pm Mass
11:00pm Vietnamese Mass

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

7:15am, 9:15am & 11:15am Masses
1:30pm Spanish Mass

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

6:00pm Vigil Mass for Holy Day

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021

Feast of Mary Mother of God - HOLY DAY

8:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass
8:00pm Vietnamese Mass

BEGINNING JANUARY 2, 2021

Saturday Vigil Masses resume at 3:30pm and
5:30pm through Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021



In the season of Advent each of us may ask ourselves: what do I expect? Advent starts a new liturgical year full of possibilities to deepen our spiritual perspectives and closeness with God. Advent season invites us to awaken new hope in God's plan and promises. Advent can be a season of healing through deeper awareness that the Christ Child desires to be born anew in you. The Savior arrives to save, heal, and deliver you. His coming is profoundly personal. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16).

The Incarnation was the fulfillment of the ancient expectancy of a Messiah, healer and deliverer of his people. The Catechism teaches, "When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming" (524).

First, let's consider the experience of expectation and preparation. Think of a couple expecting a child, a person waiting for the results of an exam, someone expecting the arrival of a friend, the anticipation of someone meeting a loved one. According to Pope Benedict XVI, "We could say that man is alive so long as he expects, so long as hope remains alive in his heart. Men and women can be recognized by their expectations, and that our moral and spiritual stature may be measured by what our hopes are."

Advent is an opportunity to renew our commitment to Christ as Lord of our life. Oftentimes in the lives of the saints we read of how they made "acts of oblation" during Advent or Lenten retreats. I find this to be very efficacious because with each passing year, I'm changed, and circumstances of my life are different also. Therefore each "act of oblation" or "re-consecration" of myself to the Lord, brings a fresh offering with new perspective of self-offering. In preparing for Christmas we have weeks to reset our spiritual life. Likely, this won't happen if we don't prioritize our time spent with the Lord. The Church's liturgy certainly helps us to focus.



OPLATKI TRADITION

Following the time honored tradition, many families will begin their Christmas Eve celebration by waiting for the appearance of the first star in the early evening sky as they look toward the East. This first star appearing symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem which announced that the Great Light was coming into our world, to the "people who lived in darkness."

The table at which the family gathers for the Christmas Eve dinner typically has some straw strewn beneath a fine white tablecloth to commemorate the birth of the Christ Child in the manger or cave where the animals lived. A more modern adaptation includes the use of straw or sprigs of evergreen which are placed on a serving platter and then covered with a fine white napkin on which the Oplatki wafers rest.

The Christmas Eve meal begins with the eldest member of the family taking an Oplatki wafer, breaking it and sharing it with the family member next to him. Each then shares pieces of the Oplatki wafer with everyone else present at the table. Some families, particularly of the Slovak tradition, share the Oplatki with honey on it, as a symbol of the sweetness and joy of the occasion. The sharing ritual is accompanied by embracing and the exchange of good wishes. The symbolism of sharing the wafer with each person and then back and forth, symbolizes the giving and sharing of our lives.

Christmas Oplatki *Bread*

Families of Polish, Slovak and Lithuanian background observe this Christmas Eve Tradition. Family members and guests are each handed an oplatek and they each break off a piece from one another and eat it, expressing best wishes and blessings to each other, and asking for forgiveness. This is a tender, touching family celebration of love and forgiveness. Envelopes of the bread are located in the Office and Church Narthex.



A \$3 donation towards the cost of the Oplatki is greatly appreciated and can be placed in the envelope next to the basket.



Advent DAILY REFLECTIONS

THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

FORMED: Introducing a new Advent journey for you and your family! Join us for the Road to Bethlehem, a journey that includes daily Advent reflections and enrichment from FORMED. We will be sending you handpicked videos, talks, and texts every day throughout Advent to nourish your spiritual life. Sign up today to prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus at Christmas! Sign up today at:

<https://advent.augustineinstitute.org/>

FORMED CODE
1823EE

GIVE TO THE HOMELESS

A group of young moms, working with our Social Justice Ministry are doing a "give to the homeless" in our area.

SUGGESTED ITEMS NEEDED:

- Travel sized toiletries
- Individual snacks like trail mix or granola
- Water bottles, Gatorade or similar
- Gallon sized bags
- Clothing donations such as: gloves, hats socks and jackets

There will be a box in the Narthex of our church for your items. Please help with this worthy drive to help those in need.





The Knights of Columbus are having a poster contest again this year! It is called **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**. Below are the links to the advertising poster and entry form.

POSTER: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/keep-christ-in-christmas/5026-kcic-poster.pdf>

ENTRY FORM: <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/family/keep-christ-in-christmas/5025-kcic-entry-score-sheet-fillable.pdf>

FORMS/CARDSTOCK: Forms and cardstock will be available in the Narthex, parish office, and in the Faith Formation hallway.

AGE DIVISIONS:
Kindergarten-2nd / 3rd-5th / 6th- 8th / 9th -12th

All entries must be turned in by SUNDAY DECEMBER 20 by noon. Prizes are \$100 per grade level.

Do You Want a More FULFILLING AND ENRICHING Marriage?

Join us for the opportunity to enrich and grow your marriage with the love of Christ. This Catholic lay movement is where like-minded couples meet once a month to eat, pray and discuss topics to help couples deepen their faith and marriage.

For More Information Contact:
Tony & Judy Fennell
(701) 361-8826 email: judyfennell1959@gmail.com

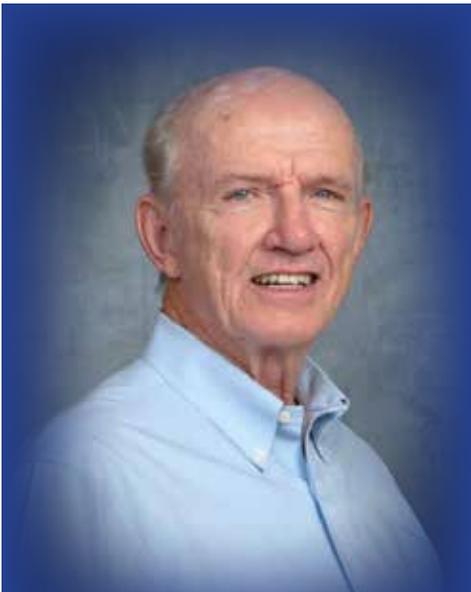
Thank You! We thank the Art and Environment Ministry for their dedication. The chair for this ministry, Catherine Vaughn and the team, plan and decorate the Church, Narthex, Chapel and Parish Life Center.

Join Us! The Art and Environment committee is looking for a few people interested in assisting with decorating the church. We meet twelve times each calendar year as it corresponds with the liturgical calendar, with Easter and Christmas being our busiest times. We conduct most of our work on Saturday mornings.

You don't have to be a decorating expert just have the desire to help. If this committee appeals to you, please call the church office and give them your name and number. The committee chairperson will be in touch to discuss your interests and the committee's responsibilities.

For more information email: info@johnxxiii.net





ABOUT TOM POWER

A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

- Professor, clinical supervisor, marriage and family therapist focusing on the prevention of family problems.
- Mentor and supervisor of therapists.
- Family therapy instructor for MSW and PhD clinicians.
- Educator teaching parents family life skills.
- Interested in enhancing and improving the quality of marital and family relationships through education and consulting services.

EDUCATION

- Family Institute of Westchester, Faculty Member and Director of Community Education
- Ackerman Family Institute
- Member and Approved Supervisor of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy and a member of the Family Therapy Academy for over 20 years.
- Masters Degrees in both Counseling and Social Work, New York University

INVEST

IN YOUR FAMILY'S WELL-BEING PARENTING PROGRAM

Parishioner Tom Power, will be offering a program to strengthen family relationships and build stronger communication skills in a 5 week workshop. The program is for all parents: single, married, divorced, or looking to start a family. Tom's experience in his professional life has gifted him the knowledge and compassion to help other parishioners work on their relationships and hopefully guide the group to stronger personal and community bonds raising their children.

PARENTING PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Join us on **ZOOM** from **7pm to 8:15pm** starting **Thursday, January 21, 2021**

The sessions will run for 5 weeks (1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18)
We are hoping this program can be in person.

COST:

\$25.00 for the family. Scholarships are available through Faith Formation & Youth Ministry.

SIGN UP:

There is limited seating for this program and it will be on a first come basis. To sign up, please contact KELLY EVERS at kelly@johnxxiii.net



MAKE YOUR HEART ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

by: **Cindy Wooden - Catholic News Service**



Catholic News Service



Iris Martinez shares the sign of peace in American Sign Language during Mass at the St. Francis Borgia Deaf Center in Chicago Aug. 16, 2020. Marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities December 3, Pope Francis again insisted that all Catholics with disabilities have a right to receive the sacraments.

(CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Chicago Catholic)

Marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Pope Francis again insisted that all Catholics with disabilities have a right to receive the sacraments, and he suggested that Catholic parishes make real efforts to welcome and train persons with disabilities to serve as catechists.

“Creating a fully accessible parish requires not only the removal of architectural barriers, but above all, helping parishioners to develop attitudes and acts of solidarity and service toward persons with disabilities and their families,” the pope said in his message, published December 3rd.

For the church, he said, “our aim should be to speak no longer about ‘them,’ but rather about ‘us.’”

The U.N. theme for the 2020 celebration of the international day was “Building Back Better: Toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 world.”

Pope Francis said he was struck by “the expression ‘building back better,’” which made him think of the Gospel story about a house built on rock or on sand.

When used in reference to the way society, and sometimes even the church, treats persons with disabilities, he said, the rain, rivers and winds that threaten the house in the Bible story “can be identified with the throwaway culture widespread in our time.”

In a throwaway culture, he said, “some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily

sacrificed for the sake of others” or simply pushed aside and ignored.

Such an attitude “ignores the inevitable fact that frailty is part of everyone’s life,” he said. And, in fact, some people “with even severe disabilities, despite great challenges, have found the way to a beautiful and meaningful life, whereas many ‘able-bodied’ people feel dissatisfied or even desperate.”

To “build back better,” he said, inclusion is key because “the strength of a chain depends upon the attention paid to its weakest links.”

For the church, he said, religious education programs must be available to those with disabilities, and every seminarian, priest and catechist should be educated about disabilities and familiar with “the use of inclusive pastoral tools.”

“Before all else,” he said, “I strongly reaffirm the right of persons with disabilities to receive the sacraments, like all other members of the church. All liturgical celebrations in the parish should be accessible to them, so that, together with their brothers and sisters, each of them can deepen, celebrate and live their faith.”

And, like all members of the church, they should know they are called to be “missionary disciples,” sharing the faith with others, he said. “Indeed, the active participation of people with disabilities in the work of catechesis can greatly enrich the life of the whole parish” by their witness.

Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

Safe Environment Training: As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment prior to beginning employment or volunteering. Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment for further information.

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

Livestreamed Mass from Catholic Center: Please join Bishop Frank J. Dewane at 9:15 a.m. for daily Mass from the Catholic Center at www.dioceseofvenice.org or <https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofVenice/>

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

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/>

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.

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

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://dioceseofvenice.org/news/>



**Holiday
DRIVING TIPS**



**A MESSAGE FROM:
The Fort Myers Police Department**

- Avoid driving alone or at night.
- Keep all car doors locked and windows closed while in or out of your car. Set your alarm or use an anti-theft device.
- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car. This creates a temptation for thieves. If you must leave something in the car, lock it in the trunk or put it out of sight.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels. Do not put them down or on top of the car in order to open the door.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are any suspicious people in the area.
- Ask mall or store security for an escort before leaving your shopping location.

