# St. John XXIII Catholic Church Hispanic Ministry

By Victor Cerna

## Story of the Hispanic Ministry at St John XXIII

- The Hispanic Ministry at St John XXIII began in 2009, the parish was Blessed Pope John XXIII at that time.
- > We began with 7 people attending.
- Masses in Spanish were given 1 per month.
- ➤ In 2019, we started having Masses in Spanish every Sunday.



#### 2009 with Father Ronnie Sision



#### 2019 with Father Lorenzo González





## 2021 with Father Luis Albarracín







## Before Covid





# During Covid





## **During Covid**

The Hispanic Ministry and the Community

## Christmas Gifts at the Family Health Center

Bonita Spring (2020)







## Christmas Gifts at the Family Health Center

Fort Myers (2020)





## Christmas Gifts at the Family Health Center

LaBelle (2020)





## 40 Days of Life

Fort Myers (2020 & 2021)





# The Hispanic Ministry has currently two active groups

- Praying the Rosary (at the church and via Zoom)
- Growing in Faith

## Growing in Faith

Fort Myers (2021)







# Praying the Rosary

Fort Myers (2021)





## Special Masses

- ➤ Baptisms
- Quinceañeras

# Baptisms



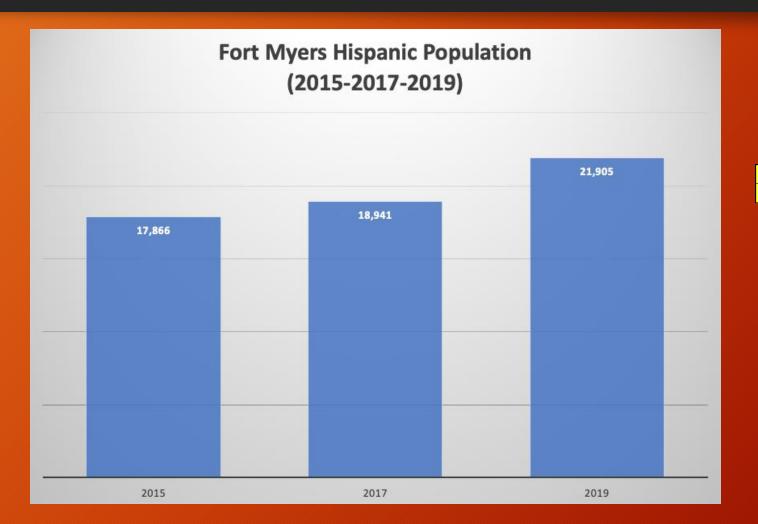
2020	6
2021	1
2021	3

## Quinceañeras



6-Mar	1
29-May	1
14-Aug	1
2-Oct	1

## Fort Myers Hispanic Population

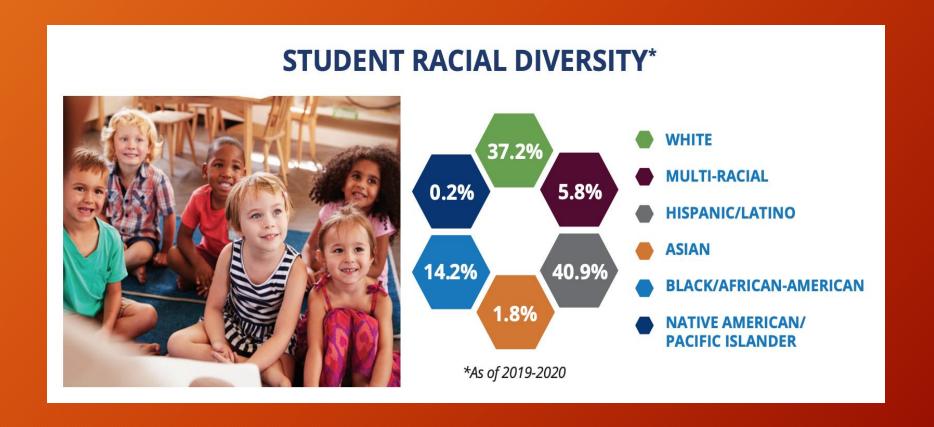


	2015	2017	2019
Population	17,866	18,941	21,905

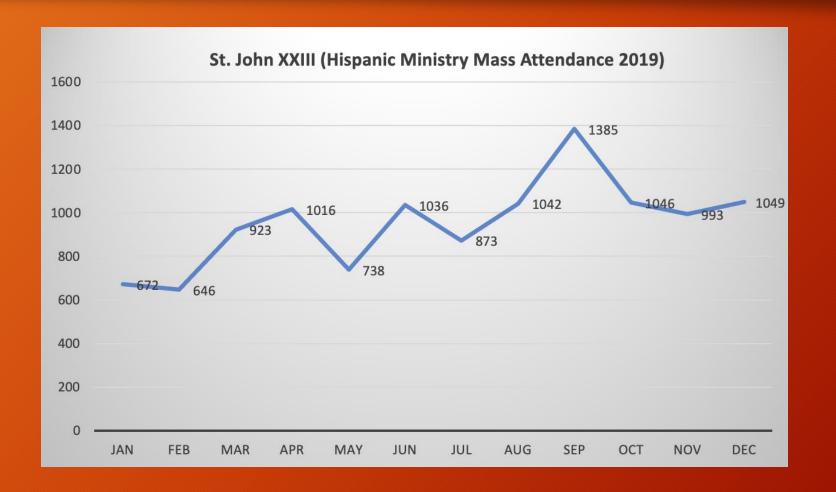
- > <u>2015</u>
- > <u>2017</u>
- > <u>2019</u>

Source: US Census Bureau

#### 2019 - 2020 District Profile

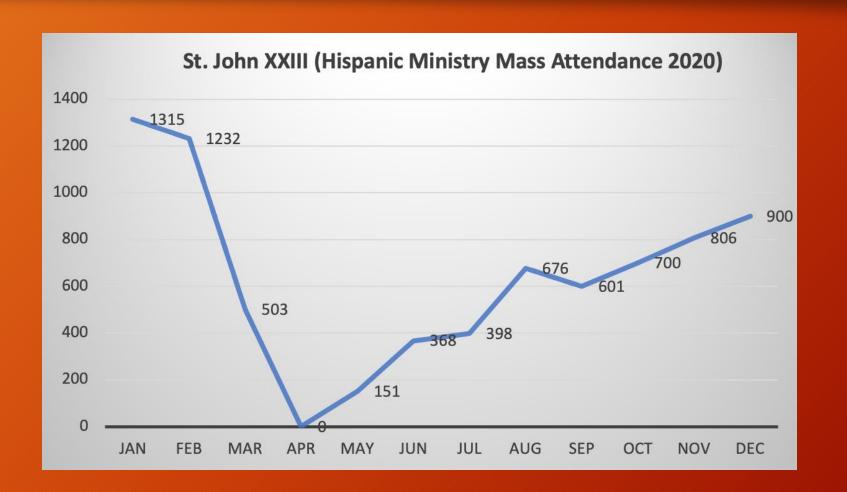


## Hispanic Mass Attendance (2019)



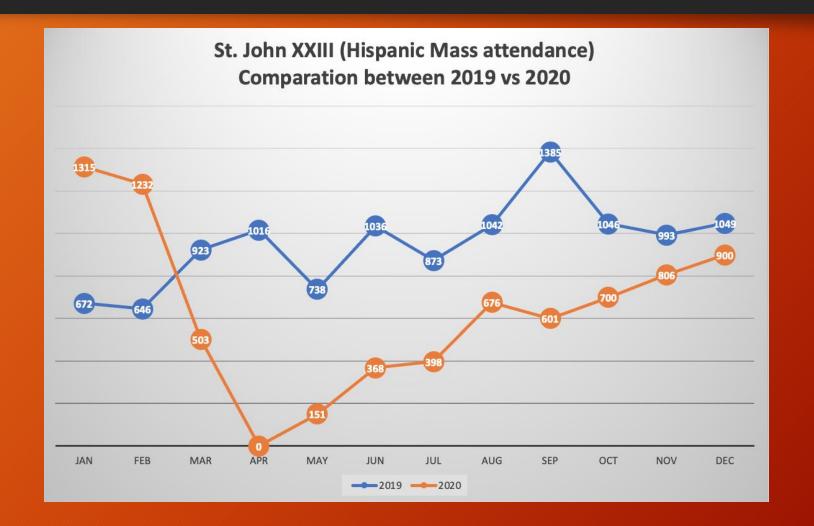
	2019
Jan	672
Feb	646
Mar	923
Apr	1016
May	738
Jun	1036
Jul	873
Aug	1042
Sep	1385
Oct	1046
Nov	993
Dec	1049
	11419

## Hispanic Mass Attendance (2020)



	2020
Jan	1315
Feb	1232
Mar	503
Apr	0
May	151
Jun	368
Jul	398
Aug	676
Sep	601
Oct	700
Nov	806
Dec	900
	7650

## Hispanic Mass Attendance (2019 vs 2020)



	2019	2020
Jan	672	1315
Feb	646	1232
Mar	923	503
Apr	1016	0
May	738	151
Jun	1036	368
Jul	873	398
Aug	1042	676
Sep	1385	601
Oct	1046	700
Nov	993	806
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	11419	7650

#### Conclusion about these numbers

- There are 3843 units new housing places around the church (This survey was made in February 2021)
- ➤ If we considerer that there are 2 people living per place, the total new population is 7686 people
- ➤ Based on Census Bureau, the Hispanic population represent the 25.1% (\*) of the total population.
- ➤ The potential assistance is 1929 people
- ➤ If we considerer that the 55 % (\*\*) is Catholic, and they are interested in participating in St. John Catholic Church. The total assistants will be 1061 people
- (\*) Source: US Census Bureau (2019: ACS 1-Year)
- (\*\*) Source: Pew Research Center

#### How are we planning to reach these people?

- ➤ Google AdWords
- > Social media
  - Facebook
  - YouTube
- ➤ Newspaper
- > Television
  - Telemundo
  - Univision

#### Final Conclusions

- As shown on the statistics, the Hispanic community is growing and according to the projections, it will continue increasing.
- > These numbers show the need of a permanent bi-lingual priest for:
  - Celebrations of all masses throughout the year, including special masses (Christmas Eve, Good Friday, Ash Wednesday, etc) and special masses requested by the parishioners (quinceaneras, weddings, funerals, etc).
  - Guidance to the parishioners during their hard times.
  - Support the groups
    - ✓ Growing in Faith
    - ✓ Praying the Rosary
  - Increase the number of confessions.
  - Help with the formation of new groups.
  - Increase the identity with the parish.

#### El Final / The End

> Muchas Gracias

>Thank you very much