



ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

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

December 12, 2021

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

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

December 12, 2021

Please Note:
SATURDAY
CONFESSIONS
takes place in the
church from
8:30am-9:00am

We will continue
LIVE streaming
some 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: The chapel will be open during weekend Masses for those who prefer additional space. However, due to Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel will not be available during the 9:15am & 11:15am Masses.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 8:00 AM † The Honorable Ed Antoniotti by his family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 8:00 AM † Joyce Mraz by Teams of Our Lady

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 8:00 AM † John Nash by Mike & Bob Hollenbeck

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 8:00 AM † William Dabroski, Sr. by Lois Dooley

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 8:00 AM † William Marcou by Robert & Patricia Ryan

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 8:00 AM † Ellen Sue Minchak by Margaret & Henry Cassi
- 4:00 PM † Louise Jackson & Harold Downs by William & Dorothy Jackson
- 8:00 PM † All Souls - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 7:15 AM ♥/† Rogers & Podolak Families by Rita
- 9:15 AM † Joyce Mraz by Joann Bernstein
- 11:15 AM † Thomas O'Keefe by Donald Carlson & family
- 1:30 PM - Spanish Mass

THE 2022 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR

To ensure availability throughout the year, we must limit Mass requests to no more than (2) weekend Masses and (2) weekday Masses per person. Other options will remain available such as Tabernacle Candle \$15 per week and Eucharistic Host \$15 per week.

DECEMBER 19, 2021 - READINGS

- 1ST READING MI 5:1-4A
- PSALM Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
- 2ND READING HEB 10:5-10
- GOSPEL LK 1:39-45

Save a Life

Donate Blood in Your Community!

**THE LEE HEALTH BLOODMOBILE IS
COMING BACK TO ST. JOHN XXIII**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 • 8AM-1PM

Pastoral Team

Business Manager

Holly Atkins

holly@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Maintenance

Rob Erp/Dave Mraz

239-561-2245

Dir. of Faith Formation

Chris Biel

chrisdre@johnxxiii.net

239-561-7499

Bookkeeper

Ana Thompson

ana@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

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maryann@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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bulletineditor@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Liturgy Coordinator

Bethany Myers

bethany@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Dir. of Music Ministries

Tom Labanuskas

musicdirector@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Youth Ministry

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

PLC Coordinator

Ivette Janoschka

ivette@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Office Assistant

Brenda Gregory

brenda@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange

blange@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Laura Hess

laura@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.”

- Philipians 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 14

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
Marlene LaRose
Erika Arquilla Hlavacek
Jeff Hlavacek
Gary Neubauer
Tom Biedak
Ron Hudepohl
Denise Vannelli
Laura Ford
Tony Gagnet
Susan Davies
Cynthia & William
Jack Gannon
Peter Meade
Kieran Rooney
Phil Peterson
Sue Edwards

Doris Westberry
Sandra Averhart
Ken Marple
Steven Clausen
Donald Dantino
Madlyne Terinoni
Melissa Yost
William Riehle
Desiree Vinci
Marilyn Marr
Jean Reiser
Anthony Prichinello
Robert Mogell
Kevin Natella
Ann Pezzano
Cathy McManus
Carlos Martinez

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!*

**Mary Lou Tedeschi
Albert Corwen**



Tabernacle Candle

**In Memory of: Don Davies
Requested by: Cora**



Adoration Chapel

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





Weekly Calendar



Monday, December 13

- Craftie Ladies: The Villas - 1pm
- KofC Meeting: St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

Tuesday, December 14

- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Bereavement: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Faith Alive: Zoom Only - 6:30pm
- AA Meeting: St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm
- Advent Reconciliation Service: Church - 7pm

Wednesday, December 15

- Confessions 8:30am-9:30am
- Respect Life Meeting: St. Martha & St. Mary - 8:45am
- Pastoral Meeting: OCR - 10am
- Faith Formation 1st Session: PLC - 4:15pm
- Middle School Youth Group: PLC - 6pm
- Faith Formation 2nd Session: PLC - 6pm



Thursday, December 16

- Hispanic Music Rehearsal: St. Therese - 7pm

Friday, December 17

- Adoration Chapel open 8am-8pm
- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Church - 8pm

Saturday, December 18

- Women's Guild Cookie & Candy Sale
- Food Distribution at St. Martin de Porres - 9am
- KofC Food Drive: Parking Lot - 10am-1pm
- Vigil Mass - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass - 8pm

Sunday, December 19

- Women's Guild Cookie & Candy Sale
- Bloodmobile: Parking Lot - 8am-1pm
- Masses: 7:15, 9:15 & 11:15am
- Open to Life: Main Hall - 10:15am
- RCIA: St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 10:15am
- Christmas Pageant Rehearsal: Chapel - 10:30am
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm



EVERY SATURDAY (via FACEBOOK)

- 4:00pm Mass with Fr. Angelo

EVERY SUNDAY (via PARISH WEBSITE/FACEBOOK)

- 11:15am Mass **(Mass is removed by Monday)*

<https://johnxxiii.net/streaming-mass/>

- 1:30pm Spanish Mass (via Youtube)
- www.facebook.com/ministeriohispano.sanjuan.1

WATCH AT HOME

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

ONLINE

www.dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/communications/tvmas/

WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Gail Gehring
- Michael Kochis
- Georgina Moeller
- Colin Feikles
- John & Terese Maier
- John & Judy Bicking
- David Barnes & Paula Battles
- Long Ngo & Thi Nguyen

Those who are new to our parish, or have been attending mass without being registered, we need your help in staying organized and planning for our future needs. If you have not received a welcome letter, please call the parish office to confirm your registration. All new parishioners or those interested in registering in our parish, are invited to attend the **New Parishioner Orientation on Sunday, February 13, 2022 after the 11:15am Mass.**

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, you 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 or are unable to contribute at this time, please note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket.

PRAYERS FOR

Our Military Personnel

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



Faith FORMATION

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



DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

(Classes 4:15pm-5:30pm & 6pm-7:15pm)

12/15: Faith Formation Classes

12/22: NO Faith Formation Classes

12/29: NO Faith Formation Classes



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 St. John XXIII and are scheduled only after the preparation process is completed by the parents. Please do not make arrangements for family members until you have actually received a date. Contact the office at **(239) 561-2245** for more information or to begin the process.

FIRST COMMUNION: (also called *First Eucharist* and *First Reconciliation*) Children in first grade or above, who have expressed a desire and willingness and are attending Mass, are welcome to begin the two year process of preparing for these Sacraments. The first year consists of regular attendance at Faith Formation classes or through a Diocesan Catholic school. (Either St. Francis Xavier or St. Andrew) The second year continues those classes, but also adds in direct Sacramental Preparation (Reconciliation and Communion) sessions. Please contact Chris at 561-7499 for more information or to begin the process. Parents who home school their children must contact the office during Year I.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation is a two year process that begins at the start of 9th Grade and is celebrated in the Fall of 11th grade. (Older teens are certainly welcome!). Each year consists of Faith Formation through the parish Youth Group or a Diocesan Catholic school (Bishop Verot) as well as scheduled Confirmation classes and a retreat. Please note: Students from Bishop Verot must register and attend the preparation classes at the beginning of 9th grade. If you are entering the 9th grade or would like more information on our program, contact Chris at (239) 561-7499 to begin the process.

ADULT FAITH

Education

Keep in TOUCH with your *Faith* ONLINE:

OPENING THE WORD

YOUR JOURNEY INTO THE SUNDAY READINGS



**Tuesday Mornings at 9:00am
PARISH LIFE CENTER**

Meetings are available in person and through ZOOM. Masks are recommended while attending. For more information email **Linda Stanley** at:

lindastanley.ls@gmail.com

Watch a short video each week on Formed.org to help prepare you for the upcoming Sunday Readings. You can 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.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

The St. John XXIII Liturgical Ministries are always open to new volunteers interested in serving our parish community. We can use bright, smiling faces at the doors of the Church welcoming all those who enter, as well as, friendly faces inside the Church guiding our congregation to their pews. We are also continuously searching for volunteers who feel a calling to bring the Body and Blood of Christ to their brothers and sisters through the Eucharistic Ministry.

*“for it is in giving
that we receive.”* - St. Francis of Assisi



For more Information:

If you have an interest in volunteering as an Usher, Greeter, or Eucharistic Minister, please call the parish office at **(239) 561-2245** to speak with:

Bethany Myers, Liturgy Coordinator
email: **bethany@johnxxiii.net**



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.

- **January 6:** Please check the Facebook page for more information.



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

Confirmation Program

- **First Year Students: Sunday, December 12**

EUCARIST RETREAT:

The Goal: candidates will tour the church and learn our sacred areas of the church & items used during Mass.

- **Second Year Students: Sunday, December 12**

MIRACLES OF THE EUCHARIST AND ADORATION :

The Goal: To learn about the miracles of the Eucharist and adoration.

High School Youth Group

HSYG Social Sessions - Sundays 5pm to 6pm

All high school teens and their friends are welcome to attend. Sessions will be held outside unless bad weather. We will end each session in the Adoration Chapel for final prayer and quiet time with Jesus.

- **December 12:** No gathering due to Confirmation class.
- **December 19:** No session due to winter break.

Middle School Youth Group

MSYG Sessions - Wednesdays 6pm to 7:15pm

Please be sure to register. We will meet in the Parish Life Center but will be outside as much as we can while Covid numbers are high.

- **December 15:** Advent Traditions

Volunteer Opportunites

Visit Sign up Genius website to view and sign up for youth and adult volunteering opportunities. Confirmed high school students can sign up as small group leaders at the HSSS.

Events: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c45aead2daaf58-youth>

Hispanic Ministry ANNOUNCEMENTS



Crecimiento en la Fe

- Lugar: Video conferencia, enlace: <https://zoom.us/j/2555496221>
- Hora: 7:00pm
- Fecha: Todos los segundos jueves del mes.

Misas en Español

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

Las misas tambien estan siendo transmitidas a traves de YouTube, ahí podrá encontrarnos como Comunidad Hispana St. John XXIII.

Rezo del Santo Rosario

(Antes de la misa los domingos)

- Lugar: Iglesia Católica St. John XXIII
- Hora: 12:45pm
- Fecha: Todos los domingos del mes.

Contáctanos

Estamos ofreciendo el servicio de misas especiales como Quinceañeras, Bautismos y Matrimonios para más información comunicarse con nosotros al email: comunidadhispana@johnxxiii.net



RCIA

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

If you are thinking about joining the Catholic Church...

The RCIA Inquiry is the starting place for adults who are considering it.

For more information, please contact:

Leslie Robertson at (239) 560-5617

Join Us!



MEETINGS in the PLC or ZOOM:
Sunday Morning after the 9:15am Mass



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.
- **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!
- **Our Weekly Newsletter:** Visit <https://www.johnxxiii.net/e-newsletter-sign-up/> and enter your email address.
- **Follow us on Instagram:** St. John XXIII is now on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/stjohnxxiiiichurch/>
- **St. John XXIII Catholic Church Mass Times:** Stay up to date and visit: <http://johnxxiii.net/info/new-mass-schedule/>
- **Serve our Parish Family During Mass:** Men, women and teens may serve as a Greeter, Usher, Lector, or Eucharistic Minister. 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!
- **Text to Give:** Text the dollar amount to 239-356-6529 to donate to our Offertory Fund. Your transaction will be processed through the Online Giving account associated with your mobile phone number. If your phone number is not recognized, you can connect your number with an existing account or create an account.
- **Low Gluten Hosts:** If you are interested in receiving low gluten hosts at Mass, please see a Sacristan to make a request.
- **Advent Adoration:** Every Wednesday and Friday during Advent, the chapel will be open 8:30am-8pm. Other regular weekday hours are 8:30am-3:45pm and Saturday 8:30am-3pm. For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry please visit: johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/
- **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
- **Yarn/Fabric Needed:** The Craftie Ladies are in need of more yarn to make projects. You may drop off the donations in the church Narthex.
- **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: holdenbnd@gmail.com or call Dick at (239) 463-3993
- **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

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

2021

DECEMBER: CATECHISTS

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit

For more information:

www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/



ST. JOHN XXIII

THRIFT store



Selling quality goods
for the good of others.

DECEMBER

30% OFF Costume Jewelry, Evening Bags, Framed Artwork, Paintings, Glasses, Platters, Pitchers and Decanters

20% OFF Footwear, Clothing, Undergarments, Small Kitchen or Personal Appliances, Table Lamps, Vases and Cloth Napkins

*Excludes Christmas Merchandise and Stemware
Sales Cannot be combined with other sales/offers*

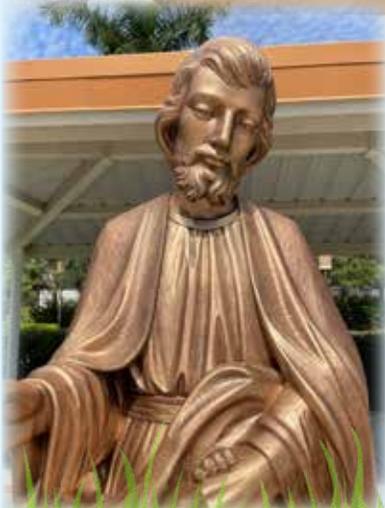
MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM - 5PM
SATURDAY - 10AM - 4PM

www.bpjthrift.com

ST. JOSEPH STATUE DEDICATION

Thank You

We would like to thank the anonymous donor for dedicating the beautiful statue of St. Joseph holding a young Jesus' hand. The statue was dedicated on Sunday, November 28 after the 11:15am Mass. It now stands proudly in our Memorial Garden across from Mary, the Mother Within. Thank you to everyone who celebrated the dedication. It was a wonderful way to start our Advent season!





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
**KEEP CHRIST
 IN CHRISTMAS**

POSTER CONTEST

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

AGE CATEGORIES:

5-7 8-10 11-14

A **\$100 prize** for 1st place in each age group.
(total of \$300 giveaway)

All entries **MUST BE SUBMITTED** by:
Sunday, December 31.

Winners will be contacted on **Wednesday, January 5** and prizes will be presented at the 9:15am Sunday Mass on January 9.

The FORM LINK is available on the St. John XXIII Facebook page and listed below.



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:



12x12 pavers are \$300 each. Below are the 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 _____



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



NO UPDATE	11-21-21	11-22-20	Difference
Offertory	\$26,474.00	\$18,284.00	\$8,190.00
Building Fund	\$1,763.00	\$1,523.00	\$240.00
Total	\$28,237.00	\$19,807.00	\$8,430.00
Mass Attendance	2600	1461	
Registered Families	3593	3634	

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

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

2021 Catholic Faith Appeal - NO UPDATE

2021 Goal	\$492,000.00
Pledge	\$620,662.78
% of Goal	126.15%
% of Households	18.46%
Payments	\$607,704.18

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

Ways To GIVE

PLEASE CONSIDER A PLEDGE TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

You greatly impact the lives of individuals, families and communities when you respond generously in support of the Catholic Faith Appeal. Please consider making a gift to the 2021 CFA.

Pledging your gift may allow you to make a more generous and affordable contribution to the CFA. The pledge can be spread out over several months. You may pledge with an initial payment while the remaining balance can be donated at any time during the next nine months. The Diocese will send you monthly reminders.

You may use the following methods to make your gift:

GIFT OPPORTUNITIES USING THE 10-PAYMENT PLAN

Gift Amount	Initial Payment	9 Monthly Payments
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
\$ 5,000	\$ 500	\$ 500
\$ 2,500	\$ 250	\$ 250
\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 100
\$ 500	\$ 50	\$ 50



YOUR GIFT TO THE **2021 Catholic Faith Appeal** will continue to make a difference in supporting the spiritual, educational, charitable and pastoral initiatives at the Diocese of Venice.
Thank you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.dioceseofvenice.org
(941) 486-4719



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Advent & Christmas

SCHEDULE 2021

ADVENT ADORATION

EVERY Wednesday and Friday during ADVENT the chapel will be open 8:30am-8:00pm

(unless otherwise noted below)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:00pm Advent Reconciliation Service with Individual Confessions

***Adoration Chapel open 8:30am-3:45pm**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:30am - 9:30am Individual Confessions

***Adoration Chapel open 8:30am-8:00pm**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGIES

4:00pm Mass ***Livestreamed**

6:30pm Mass

9:00pm Mass

11:00pm Vietnamese Mass

***Parish Office & Adoration Chapel CLOSED**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

7:15am, 9:15am & 11:15am* Masses

***11:15am Mass Livestreamed**

1:30pm Spanish Mass

***Adoration Chapel CLOSED**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

***Adoration Chapel open 8:30am-12:00pm**

PLEASE NOTE: Feast of Mary Mother of God is NOT A HOLY DAY this year.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022

8:00am Mass

4:00pm Mass

11:00pm Vietnamese Mass

***Adoration Chapel open 8:30am-3:00pm**

THE JOY OF

Advent

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.

Joy

DECEMBER

Mike Kane

by: **Maureen Dombrowski**

Marking the **150th Anniversary of St. Joseph** being declared patron of the universal church, Pope Francis proclaimed a year long celebration dedicated to the foster father of Jesus. Each month during this special year, we will feature an interview with a member of the St. John XXIII parish whose life reflects the virtues and characteristics of St. Joseph.



LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH

Joseph Most Just, pray for us.

Joseph Most Courageous, pray for us.

Joseph Most Obedient, pray for us.

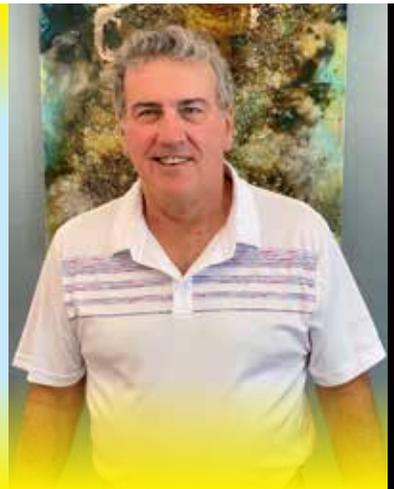
Joseph Most Faithful, pray for us.

Pillar of Families, pray for us.

Protector of the Church, pray for us.

MIKE KANE

served as a Drug Enforcement Agent for 29 years before starting the next chapter of his life as chief investigator for the law firm of Holland and Knight. Mike continues to use his professional skills as a member of the parish security ministry.



He has been the devoted husband of Elizabeth for 49 years and is the proud father of three children ranging in age from 46-37, and the loving grandfather to three granddaughters ranging in age from 4-11. Mike and Elizabeth are often seen at Mass with their eleven-year-old granddaughter who they are raising. According to Mike, they are “giving her the basics in our faith, making sure she receives the sacraments, and ensuring that she stays on track.”

Mike sees St. Joseph as a role model in his life because Joseph received “the message of the Holy Spirit to do God’s work by being a model father. He provided fatherly love and counsel and gave proper guidance—the kind of guidance we need to give to our children and grandchildren.”

Social media and the internet make this wise guidance essential today. Children need to know that they can go to their parents and grandparents for help with difficult problems and pressures new to this generation of children.

Mike knows the rewards of serving in a parental role far outweigh the challenges. “You appreciate your labor by seeing your children successful, not in a professional sense, but to see them very, very happy, good citizens and decent people who are guiding their children in the way you guided them.”

The Church has supported Mike in his paternal leadership role by “providing the venue and stage to worship Christ and receive Holy Communion.” Mike adamantly believes that the true presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist helps and sustains us. “It is what our faith is all about.” This is the faith that he wishes to pass on to future generations.



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.



FOOD

COLLECTION

outside in the parking lot

NON-PERISHABLE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18
10AM-1PM



PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

CHRISTMAS COOKIES & CANDY SALE



WEEKEND OF:

DECEMBER 18 & 19

After All Masses

Don't have time to bake for Christmas or not a baker? Then treat your friends and family to delicious homemade cookies and candy made by women of the St. John XXIII parish!

**ALL FUNDS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED
AMONG THE WOMEN'S GUILD
CHARITABLE FUNDS**



HEALING OUR IMAGES OF GOD: Mercy or Misery

COME JOIN *Fr. Bill Jarema*

OVERVIEW: The Growing Rich in Mercy Program is a dynamic and exciting program that empowers each person committed to a way of holiness. We believe that Spiritual growth is a pilgrimage that takes us on a journey that we walk together and alone.

A well-balanced spiritual life touches, integrates and becomes aware of how God mingles with our whole-person. God is continually healing and redeeming the spiritual, physical, social, and psychological dimensions of our personhood; each reflecting His image and likeness. (*1 Thes. 5:23*)

The Growing Rich in Mercy Program reviews some of the fundamentals of personal and spiritual growth. We will explore our spiritual life history and traditions. Acknowledging our personal talents and honoring the charisms we have received from God enables us to be more receptive to mercy and more generous in celebrating God's tender love with others.

Understanding the differences between the spirit, mind and body will be an on-going challenge and understanding. Each level of the Growing Rich in Mercy Program will continue to explore, separate, differentiate and dialogue about the differences of the body, mind and spirit and how we grow and become a spiritually mature Christian.

Our ultimate goal for those who journey with us in the Growing Rich in Mercy Program is to become more aware of God's mercy and active loving influence within our daily life.

Sharing the spiritual journey with a loving community will enhance your desire to become a generous distributor of God's Mercy.

The cost is **\$100.00** with half going to the Mercy Center and half to the parish for the workbook and supplies. You can make out a check to St. John XXIII and drop it off at the office or in the collection baskets along with your registration.



Rev. William J. Jarema, BA, MS, M.Div., MAS. NCC, is an international retreat and workshop provider. He has been an ordained Catholic priest for 39 years and a clinical psychotherapist for 42 years. Fr. Bill has published numerous books and CD's on healing and personal growth and development. Fr. Bill's books and CD's will be available at the classes.

For more information about Fr. Bill and his work with the Mercy Center Inc. and a list of all his retreats and workshops held in Colorado Springs, books and CD's go to:

themercycenter@aol.com

2022 DATES/TIME IN OUR PARISH LIFE CENTER

- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 8** 9:00pm - 12:00pm
- **SATURDAY, JANUARY 22** 9:00am - 12:00pm
- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5** 9:00am - 12:00pm
- **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19** 9:00am - 12:00pm
- **SATURDAY, MARCH 12** 9:00am - 12:00pm
- **SATURDAY, MARCH 19** 9:00am - 12:00pm



HEALING OUR IMAGES OF GOD: Mercy or Misery

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PAYMENT METHOD: CHECK CASH CREDIT CARD

For more information email **Holly Atkins** at holly@johnxxiii.net or call the office (239) 561-2245

Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

Holiday Wish List: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. is in need of key items leading up to Christmas. All Catholic Charities food pantries are in need of non-perishable food items (canned fruits and vegetables, soup, peanut butter, tuna, tomato sauce, rice, pasta and cereal) to help restock the shelves for the holiday season. We are also accepting donations for Christmas including unwrapped gifts for children (baby and toddler toys, board games, athletic equipment, bicycles and more) and for the elderly (cards, dominoes, activity books, crossword puzzles). Gift cards to local grocery and retail stores are also accepted. To donate, visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org/how-you-can-help/ or call (941) 488-5581

English as Second Language Classes: Free classes for Beginning and Intermediate students sponsored by St Columbkille Church. Offered via Zoom on Tuesday evenings, and In Person classes on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings in the Ministry Center. Individual tutoring available. If interested, please call Mary at (443) 567 9200

40 Days for Life 365: The Fall Campaign may be over, but the effort continues to cover Planned Parenthood in prayer for an end to abortion every day that they are open. Please visit www.40daysforlife.com/fortmyers for more details.

Join a National Prayer Campaign: The Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* could impact the fate of millions of unborn children and their mothers by overturning *Roe v Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. Pray that the Justices will not be persuaded by political pressure or perceived public opinion, but that they would be impartial in their judgment. Oral arguments begin Wednesday, December 1. Register at www.prayfordobbs.com to join together in continued prayer and stay informed on the case. For additional information contact Jeanne Berdeaux at Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org or call (941) 374-1068

Televised Mass for the Homebound: For those who are unable to attend Mass due to medical or physical limitations, the Diocese of Venice offers a televised Mass each Sunday. For viewers in the northern portions of the Diocese, the Mass airs at 9:30am on the CW Network; and for those in the southern portions of the Diocese, the Mass is at 10:30am on WFTX-TV (FOX-4).

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

Novena of Masses for Life: Participate in a Mass near you and pray for life! Visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife for the monthly schedule of Novena of Masses for Life.

Free Consultations: The National Catholic Bioethics Center answers questions from individuals who seek to better understand or apply Catholic moral teaching to specific ethical issues they are facing in health care or the life sciences, real life problems or dilemmas. These consultations are free and confidential. Complete the online form at www.ncbcenter.org or call 24 hours/7 days per week (215) 877-2660

Witnessing the Faith: Listen to Bishop Dewane on Relevant Florida Radio at 8:30am the last Friday of every month. Listen anywhere at RelevantRadio.com

Catholic Charities Offers **Free** Mental Health Counseling!

We are now actively providing **FREE** Youth Tele-Mental Health Counseling Services in your area!

ARE YOUR CHILDREN:

- struggling with anxiety
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If you need help, please call to speak with Catholic Charities staff for support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

please contact the number for your area:

Sarasota/Manatee/DeSoto/Hardee/Highlands counties: **844-385-2407**

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www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

Women's Guild OF ST. JOHN XXIII PRESENTS:

THE 15TH ANNUAL

FASHION SHOW

SHOW BY TRADER RICK'S AND LUNCH BY G3 CATERING

MENU: SALAD, CHICKEN PICCATA, POTATOES, VEGETABLE, ROLLS & DESSERT

DOORS OPEN AT 11 AM

Saturday, February 26, 2022

St. John XXIII PARISH LIFE CENTER: 13060 Palomino Lane • Ft. Myers, FL 33912

ENTER THROUGH THE NORTH ENTRANCE (FRONT) OF THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

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To confirm please complete and return with check(s) for all reservations. Tables must be paid in full. We have tables that seat 8 or 10, although the tables of 10 are limited. These tables of 10 are on a first come basis. To determine if tables of 10 are still available email baagrammy322@gmail.com. If your party is fewer than 8 we will seat additional guests at your table. Please list those to be seated at your table below and return with payment by January 30th.

ALL RESERVATIONS ARE TRANSFERABLE AND NONREFUNDABLE.

PLEASE PRINT - Table or reservations by:

Name: _____

Email Contact: _____

Phone # _____ I have enclosed Check # _____

For _____ Reservations @\$45 each Total \$ _____

THOSE TO BE SEATED:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

SPECIAL DIET MENU: will be offered for those requesting in advance. Contact Barbara Artale at baagrammy322@gmail.com

MAIL FORM TO: St. John XXIII - Women's Guild Fashion Show
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