



ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

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

March 26, 2023

ANNUNCIATION

OF THE LORD



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

March 25, 2023

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

To Be Determined

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Fr. Mike Young

frmike@johnxxiii.net

Fr. Simon Dao CRM

frsimon@johnxxiii.net

DEACONS

Deacon Rich Klish

DeaconRich@johnxxiii.net

Deacon John Gaulin

deaconjgp@gmail.com

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, MARCH 27

- 8:00 AM † Pat Nacol by JoAnne Walsh

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

- 8:00 AM † Francesco Pace by his family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

- 8:00 AM † Catherine Dempsey by her family

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

- 8:00 AM † Deceased Rutgers Fraternity Brothers by Frank Savino

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

- 8:00 AM † Elizabeth Cook by Richard Cook

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

- 8:00 AM ♥/† Living/Deceased Rogers & Podolak families by Rita Rogers
- 4:00 PM † Sally Petrella by Jim & Andrea Buczek
- 8:00 PM † Peter - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 - PALM SUNDAY

- 7:15 AM † Bonnie Carl by Tim & Amy Shea
- 9:15 AM † Vincenzo Fiamingo by Tish & Tony Fiamingo
- 11:15 AM † Ronald Steele by his family
- 1:30 PM † Elsie Antunez de Hernandez by Juan Hernandez

APRIL 2, 2023 - READINGS

Palm Sunday

- PROCESSION GOSPEL MT 21:1-11
- 1ST READING IS 50:4-7
- PSALM PS 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
- 2ND READING PHIL 2:6-11
- GOSPEL MT 26:14-27:66

APRIL 6, 2023 - READINGS

Holy Thursday

- 1ST READING EX 12:1-8, 11-14
- PSALM PS 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18
- 2ND READING 1 COR 11:23-26
- GOSPEL JN 13:1-15

APRIL 7, 2023 - READINGS

Good Friday

- 1ST READING IS 52:13-53:12
- PSALM PS 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25
- 2ND READING HEB 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- GOSPEL JN 18:1-19:42

Pastoral Team

Business Manager

Holly Atkins

holly@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Facilities Director

Jason Goss

239-561-2245

Maintenance

Jonathan Enright

239-561-2245

Dir. of Religious Education

Frannie Cerniglia

frannedre@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

Admin. Assistant

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bulletineditor@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

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Bethany Myers

bethany@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Music Director

Richard Owen

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:

PLC Coordinator

Ivette Janoschka

ivette@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange

blange@johnxxiii.net

239-561-2245

Story of the Annunciation of the Lord

Cynthia William - Franciscan Media

The feast of the Annunciation, now recognized as a solemnity, was first celebrated in the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation: God has become one of us. From all eternity God had decided that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us, the decision is being realized. The God-Man embraces all humanity, indeed all creation, to bring it to God in one great act of love. Because human beings have rejected God, Jesus will accept a life of suffering and an agonizing death: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

Mary has an important role to play in God's plan. From all eternity, God destined her to be the mother of Jesus and closely related to him in the creation and redemption of the world. We could say that God's decrees of creation and redemption are joined in the decree of Incarnation. Because Mary is God's instrument in the Incarnation, she has a role to play with Jesus in creation and redemption. It is a God-given role. It is God's grace from beginning to end. Mary becomes the eminent figure she is only by God's grace. She is the empty space where God could act. Everything she is she owes to the Trinity.

Mary is the virgin-mother who fulfills Isaiah 7:14 in a way that Isaiah could not have imagined. She is united with her son in carrying out the will of God (Psalm 40:8-9; Hebrews 10:7-9; Luke 1:38).

Together with Jesus, the privileged and graced Mary is the link between heaven and earth. She is the human being who best, after Jesus, exemplifies the possibilities of human existence. She received into her lowliness the infinite love of God. She shows how an ordinary human being can reflect God in the ordinary circumstances of life. She exemplifies what the Church and every member of the Church is meant to become. She is the ultimate product of the creative and redemptive power of God. She manifests what the Incarnation is meant to accomplish for all of us.

REFLECTION:

Sometimes spiritual writers are accused of putting Mary on a pedestal and thereby, discouraging ordinary humans from imitating her. Perhaps such an observation is misguided. God did put Mary on a pedestal and has put all human beings on a pedestal. We have scarcely begun to realize the magnificence of divine grace, the wonder of God's freely given love. The marvel of Mary, even in the midst of her very ordinary life-is God's shout to us to wake up to the marvelous creatures that we all are by divine design.

The Annunciation of the Lord reveals God's participation in our humanity. What a joyful reality!

"The Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel" (IS 7:14), which means "God is with us" (MT 1:23)



PRAYER OF

Faith



Dear Lord,
I choose to put actions
behind my faith today.
I trust that You are at
work in my life. I will
wait the right way, with
expectancy, knowing
that my faith in You
opens the door for Your
hand to move in my life.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.



Prayer List

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

Marlene LaRose
Gary Neubauer
Ron Hudepohl
Laura Ford
Tony Gagnet
Scott Dugan
Braden O'Halloran
Infant Anthony Vardaan
Jim Benham
Cynthia & William
Sandy Peterson
John Matulis
Mary Paska
Michael Lawrence
Tony Thompson
Kevin Ferreira
David
Deborah Young

Jim Bedenko
Kevin Sutton
Michael D.
Hermann Preissler
Peg Gaffney
Laurie Gilligan
Lois Patterson
Elethia Oliver-Ajose
Cathy McManus
Jim Aversa
Stephen & Connie
Kahn Le
Pat Kennedy
Chris Connolly
Karen Yurko
William Dewes
Junemarie Navy

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 epayer.stjohn23@gmail.com

Their names will be circulated to an ever-growing list of people who will pray for them by name!

Join our ePrayer community and give the gift of prayer. Register at: <https://johnxxiii.net/e-prayer/>



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, Oh Lord!

Paul Gualemi
Pasquale Santucci Jr.



PLEASE HELP OUR ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT BY INCLUDING YOUR ENVELOPE # ON YOUR DONATION

REMINDER

When you are writing a CHECK for your donation please only use BLACK or BLUE INK because other colors DO NOT show up when they are scanned at the bank.

Thank You



Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



Monday, March 27

- Men's Gospel Forum: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7am
- Craftie Ladies: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 1pm

Tuesday, March 28

- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Walking with Purpose/St. Martha & St. Mary - 10am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 6:45pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

Wednesday, March 29

- Walking with Purpose: ZOOM - 9:30am
- Pastoral Staff Meeting: OCR - 10am
- Faith Formation Session 1: PLC - 4:15pm
- Adult Choir Practice: Chapel - 6pm
- Faith Formation Session 2: PLC - 6pm
- Middle School Youth Group: Main Hall - 6pm



Thursday, March 30

- Mass at Cypress Point: Discovery Commons - 9am
- Bridge: PLC/St. Michael/St. Bernadette - 12:30pm
- Hispanic Music Rehearsal: PLC/Classroom - 7pm
- Walking with Purpose: ZOOM - 7:30pm

Friday, March 31

- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 8pm
- **CONFESSIONS: CHURCH - 4PM - 8PM**
- Stations of the Cross & Benediction: Church - 6pm

Saturday, April 1

- **CONFESSIONS: CHURCH - 9AM - NOON**
- First Communion Retreat: Main Hall - 9am - 12pm
- Easter Egg Hunt: Outside: starts at 11:30am
- Vigil Mass: Church - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 8pm

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

- 7:15am, 9:15am & 11:15am * *Livestreamed*
- **NO HOSPITALITY ON PALM SUNDAY**
- Bloodmobile: Parking Lot - 8am - 1pm
- Children's Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 8:45am
- Pre-School Bible Class: St. Susanna - 9:15am
- RCIA: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 10:15am
- Hispanic Choir: St. Elizabeth - 11am
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm * *via YouTube*
- Praise & Worship: Chapel - 4pm



WATCH AT HOME

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

ONLINE

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

WELCOME

New Parishioners

- Joseph Shedlarski
- Jake & Amy Skinner
- Julisa Exposito
- Brian & Kimberly Strizak
- Ivan Zapata Cruz
- John & Karen Stancliff
- Nicole Rodriguez
- Tom & Rose Rodgers

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, May, 21, 2023 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 support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket.

PRAYERS FOR

Our Military Personnel

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PFC Bryan Bard | Ryan Silva, Army |
| Sean Ball | 2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC |
| Major Bart Boma | Jared Broemmell, US Navy |
| Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove | 2nd Lt. Edward Hudson |
| Sgt. Phil Dellibovi | Tillinghast IV, Army |
| CPT Andrew Dugan, Spec. Forces | Jethro Ignacio, US Air Force |
| Sgt. Jared Gaudet | Com. Craig Fowler, USN |
| Capt. Kellyn C. Hall | Eric Sanchez, US Air Force |
| Andrew Herman | Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army, |
| Sgt. Kathleen Hudepohl | 82nd ABN |
| PFC Michael P Hughes | CPL Eric Lyons, USMC |
| SPC Michael Jednak | 2nd Lt. Nicholas Meunier, US Army |
| PFC Andrew Kanopkh | Robert Trenton Morell, Medic |
| Michael Klem | Specialist US Army |
| Major Bradley D. Laux | Michael Thomas Morell, US Navy |
| Capt. Jacob Mundo, US Army | SPC 4 Judy Martinez, US Army |
| SSGT Anthony Padula | 1st Lt. Jeffrey Zivkovic, US Army |
| Master SGT Peter Parison | Christopher Dominski, PFC ARNG |
| Sgt. Justin Pingicer, Army | 2nd Lt. Sara Wulff |
| Lt. Col. Brady Sexton | Sean Dryhurst US Navy |
| 2nd Lt. Kristen Thompson | Lt. Amanda Macaluso |
| Christian Troutner, US Navy | Anthony An Schroeder, |
| Alex Zizzo, US Navy Medic | 11 Bravo Infantry |
| PFC Jordan Feil, USA | Derrick Hambling, Army Airborne |
| Sgt. Hayden Linde, FLARNG | Infantry |
| Aaron Crump, USCG | Maj. Paige Blevins USAF |
| Sgt. Nathaniel Broemmell | Maj. Christopher Blevins USAF |
| Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo | Capt. Cameron Hortman USAF |
| Col. Scott C. Woodward | PFC Alan Copeland |
| Andrew Hawkinson, USN | Augustus Gagis, Major, USAF |
| Cavalry Scout Specialist, | Zachary Gagis, Lieutenant, USN |



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

General Announcements

- **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 and it will be processed.
- **Online Giving:** We appreciate your donations to keep our parish running. You can enroll online through the St. John XXIII website at: <https://johnxxiii.net/giving>
- **Low Gluten Hosts:** If you are interested in receiving low gluten hosts at Mass, please see a Sacristan to make a request.
- **Free FORMED Account:** Discover all the best Catholic content in one place! Go to formed.org and click on “register”. Create your FREE account by entering our parish code and your email address. Our Parish Code is 1823ee
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:45pm & Saturday 8:30am-3:30pm. First Friday Adoration with extended Friday hours during Lent except Good Friday. For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry please 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 or visit www.bpjthrift.com
- **Non-Perishable Donations:** Please consider bringing your nonperishable items to church. These donations fill pantries in our area. Items can be dropped off in the Narthex. Please check expiration dates.
- **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.
- **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

BEREAVEMENT AND BEYOND



If you lost a loved one, we offer a safe, supportive place to deal with this life changing event.

The Bereavement and Beyond Group is now meeting each Tuesday from 1pm-3pm in the Parish Life Center in rooms: St. Bernadette and St. Michael.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the Parish office at **(239) 561-2245**



WEEKEND MASSES Through Easter

In an effort to alleviate traffic in our community, we hope to implement traffic control for weekend Masses through Easter per the Lee County Sheriff’s availability.



ANNUAL easter egg hunt

Saturday, April 1

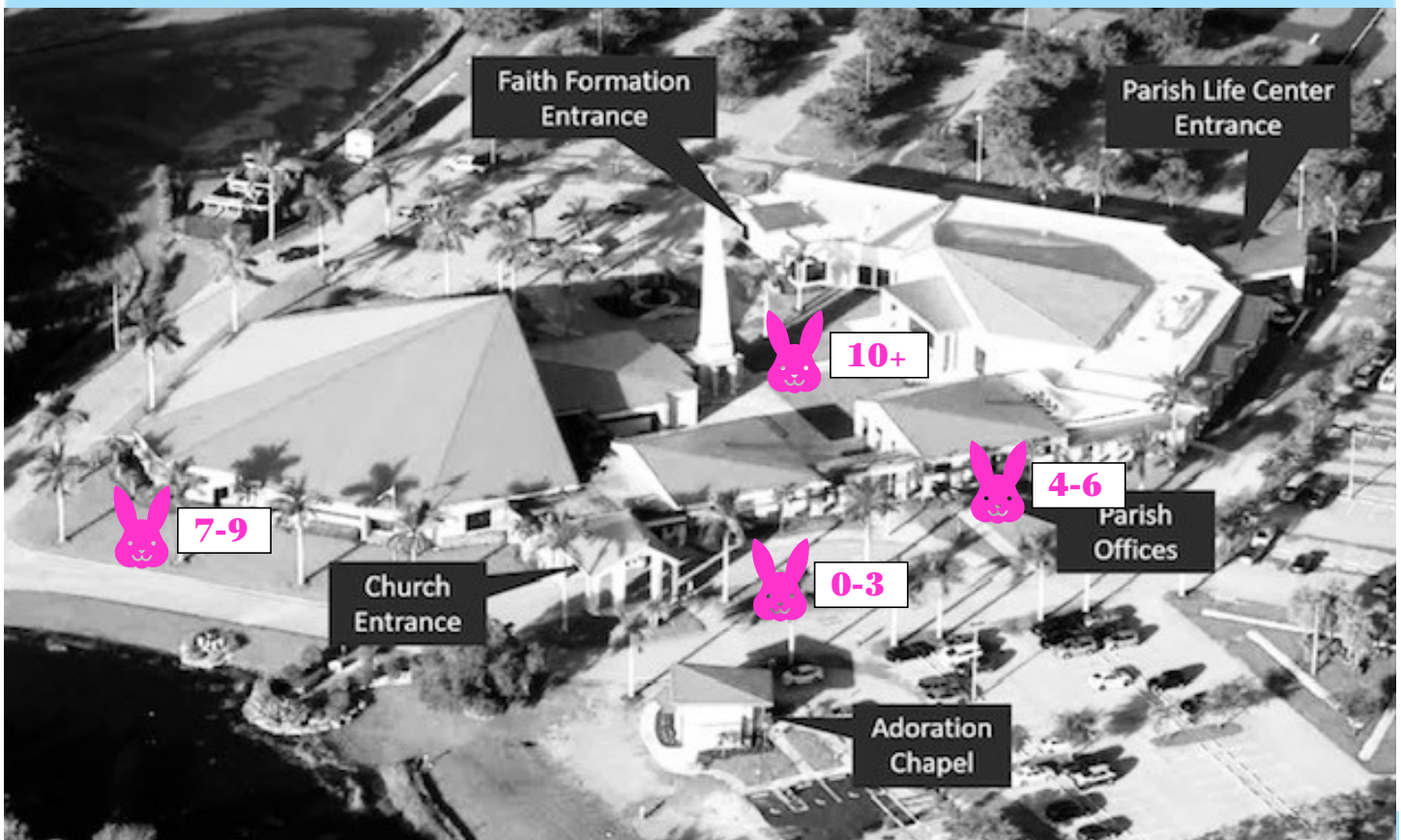
Schedule:

11:30am: Bunny Dance Party with DJ Steve
(cookies and lemonade will be served)

11:50am: Raffle Drawing Winners

12:00pm: Easter Prayer and instruction with
Easter Egg Hunt siren to follow.

We are requesting stuffed egg donations filled with prizes or candy. The donation box is located in the Narthex. PLEASE NO CHOCOLATE - IT MELTS!



EASTER EGG HUNT RULES

- Do not start until the siren sounds.
- Every child gets a minimum of 5 eggs, once every child has 5 then you can collect more.
- If a child does not have 5 eggs, children around them must share.

EASTER EGG HUNT BY AGE GROUPS

- 0-3 in small grass area between the church and drive up portico.
- 4-6 in the grass area in front of parish office next to the St. Michael Memorial.
- 7-9 in field in front of church under the flagpole.
- 10 and up- is in the field behind the Parish Life center across from St. Patrick.



Faith FORMATION

Contact: Frannie Cerniglia | 561-7499 | franniedre@johnxxxiii.net

SAVE
THE
DATES

June 26 - June 30



This summer's vacation Bible School is sure to be "Out of this World" and "STELLAR" as we "Shine Jesus' Light"! Registration and more information to follow in this section in upcoming bulletins.

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 Frannie at 239-561-7499 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, please contact Frannie 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

Watch a short video each week on Formed.org to help prepare you for the upcoming Sunday Readings. You can register at <https://johnxxxiii.formed.org/> and follow the instructions to sign in and watch Opening the Word. View all of the Catholic content 24/7.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Join us! The liturgical ministries are always open to new volunteers interested in serving our parish community. We are currently in need of additional Ushers and Greeters as we prepare for the Easter season and then head into the summer months. If you have an interest in serving as a bright, smiling face at the doors of the Church welcoming all those who enter or as a friendly face inside the Church guiding our congregation to their pews, please contact **Bethany Myers** in the parish office to begin the process of becoming a Liturgical Minister. . . for truly "it is in giving of ourselves that we receive" (The Prayer of St. Francis)



For more information:

Bethany Myers, Liturgy Coordinator
email: bethany@johnxxxiii.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.

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



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

Join us on OUR JOURNEY to CURE Pediatric Cancer

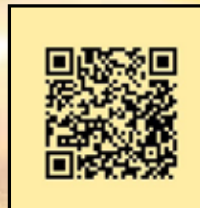
WALK FOR A CURE



Saturday, April 1 (4-7pm)

BISHOP VEROT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
5598 Sunrise Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33919

For questions, contact:
Mara Lodwick or Sophia Piña
mara.lodwick@bvhs.org



Register at: <https://one-step-at-a-time.ticketleap.com/walk-for-a-cure/> or scan the QR CODE

Hispanic Ministry
ANNOUNCEMENTS



Misas en Español

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

Las misas también están siendo transmitidas a través de YouTube. Recuerda el rezo del Santo Rosario (antes de la misa de los domingos, 12:45pm).

Grupo de Oración de Renovación Carismática

- Lugar: Capilla Nuestra Señora del Rosario.
- Fecha y Hora: Todos los **martes** del mes. 6:45pm.

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



SOLES FOR SOULS

16th Annual Sneaker Drive

Sponsored by the Women's Guild of St. John XXIII
(In support of Social Justice Ministry)

**NOW
THROUGH
MARCH 31**



The large Sneaker in the Narthex marks the start of our **16th Annual Sneaker Drive** to supply needy kids with shoes in time for the start of the new School Year. This fund raiser is sponsored by the Women's Guild of St. John XXIII Church in support of our Social Justice Ministry.

Please take an envelope from the Sneaker Display Table, enclose your donation, and return it by mail or in the collection basket at Mass. Last year 400 children benefitted from your generosity.

Active Registered Parishioners who need help outfitting their child with return-to-school shoes may complete the request form below and email to: Stellamccaffrey@aol.com or mail to the parish office. **Forms must be received no later than March 31, 2023.** Return-addressed envelopes are available on the Sneaker Display Table in the Narthex.

REQUEST FORM FOR: SNEAKERS & BACKPACKS

| PARENT'S NAME | | PHONE # | | EMAIL | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|---------|-----|-------|-----------|------------|----------|----|-------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Child's First Name | GENDER | | AGE | SIZE | Check One | | BACKPACK | | GRADE |
| | BOY | GIRL | | | Kid Size | Adult Size | YES | NO | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
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Save a Life Sunday



Donate Blood in Your Community!

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

**Help us Make our
Goal of 20+ Units!**

All donors will receive a limited-edition t-shirt and wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

For more information call (239) 343-2333

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 • 8AM-1PM - PARKING LOT



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



| | 3-19-23 | 3-20-22 | Difference |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Offertory | \$40,146.18 | \$33,615.61 | \$6,530.57 |
| Building Fund | \$1,231.30 | \$1,483.00 | (\$251.70) |
| Total | \$41,377.48 | \$35,098.61 | \$6,278.87 |
| Mass Attendance | 3752 | 3603 | |
| Registered Families | 3726 | 3541 | |

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

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

-----2023 Catholic Faith Appeal-----

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 2023 Goal | \$488,000.00 |
| Pledge | \$238,540.00 |
| Payments | \$155,578.66 |

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



REMINDERS FROM THE

Bookkeeping

DEPARTMENT

Envelopes:

Please use your envelopes whenever possible. If using pink or green envelopes located at the back door and welcome center in the Narthex, include your envelope number. All registered parishioners are provided an envelope number. Otherwise, please fill in the envelope completely with name and address. To keep cost down, please notify us of any address changes or if you don't need them.

Credit Card Donations:

Please remember to update the parish office with any changes to your card. Please call the office if your card has expired or been compromised. This will allow your donations to continue without interruption.

Checks:

Please use only **BLACK** or **BLUE** ink when writing checks. **PINK, PURPLE, RED**, etc. does not scan well when deposited.

CFA: (Catholic Faith Appeal)

The large **WHITE** envelopes in the pews are for the Catholic Faith Appeal. Please make checks payable to the CFA.



Thank you for helping us save time and keep our records accurate.



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

Contact: **Richard Owen** | musicdirector@johnxxiii.net

The music ministry is seeking inspired volunteers to join our exciting music programs. Please find below more information or contact our music director, **Richard Owen**, at: Musicdirector@johnxxiii.net

“Those who sing, pray twice”, said St. Augustine and ‘Those who sing well, sing thrice’.

St. John XXIII Parish Choir:

The Parish Choir is composed of adult women and men who lead the congregation at the Sunday 11:15AM Mass. Weekly rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6-7:00PM.

St. John XXIII Children’s Choir:

The choir is composed of children age 6 - 14 who sing monthly at the Sunday 9:15AM Mass. Rehearsals are on Sundays from 8:45-9:05AM in the Chapel.

St. John XXIII Modern Ensemble:

This vocal and instrumental group of teenagers and adults present diverse upbeat repertoire at a monthly 4:00pm Sunday Mass. Rehearsals are twice a month on Wednesdays from 7-8:00PM in the church.



CONTEMPORARY MASS

Sunday, March 26 - 4:00pm

All are welcome to join us the last Sunday of the month in the Church for our Contemporary Mass at 4:00pm.

PLEASE USE THE QR CODE for hymns used at both the Contemporary Mass and *Praise & Worship on Sunday, April 2.*



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

EASTER SCHEDULE

2023 Holy Week

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday - Wednesday open 8:30am-3:45pm

Thursday - Sunday: CLOSED

Monday April 10: open 8:30am-3:45pm

(Please note the Parish Office is Closed)

HOLY THURSDAY - APRIL 6

Morning Prayer: 8:00am

Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 7:00pm

Adoration: 8:00pm - 10:00pm in the Parish Life Center

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 7

Morning Prayer: 8:00am

Stations of the Cross: 2:15pm

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion: 3:00pm

Vietnamese Passion Service: 8:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 8

Morning Prayer: 8:00am

Blessing of Food: 8:30am

Vigil Mass: 8:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 9

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

Spanish Mass: 1:30pm

Vietnamese Mass: 4:00pm

DIVINE MERCY - APRIL 16

Reconciliation: 2:00pm (Parish Life Center)

Mass: 3:00pm (Parish Life Center)

LIVING *Lent* BY *God's* WILL

by: Jeannie Ewing - Catholic Exchange

Lent reminds us to slow down, pay attention, and turn inward. So often, we are focused on doing more, of turning activity into success. We don't see the point or purpose of dependence, helplessness, and ultimately passion. Most of us spend our lives searching for more that we can contribute to society.

But when life strikes us with prolonged illness, temporary incapacitation due to an accident or injury, or aging, we call ourselves burdens. Waiting in passivity can be excruciating, but moving through Lent by meditating on the Passion of Jesus grants us clues about how we can wait without wasting our time.

At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "All things are finished." (Some translations are "My work is complete.") But on the Cross he said, "It is finished." What does this mean? He told his disciples that his work was complete, yet there was still more to be done. The only thing left would be His suffering and death.

This is pivotal in our understanding that work is not our highest goal for which to strive, nor is it what defines our worthiness. Jesus taught us that. He demonstrated that the highest calling for all of us is to allow ourselves to become empty as His body was emptied of Precious Blood and Water, to die to our whims and worries. In the end, we fall into the arms of God in total dependence upon His active and permissive will.

Lent reminds us that passion has a divine purpose, not just for Jesus, but for us all. We can meditate on the life of Jesus, in that He spent three very active years of preaching, healing, teaching, and traveling. But this was not the be-all-end-all. It was not the end, only the means to His willingness to become helpless.

Jesus allowed Himself to be handed over to Pilate. Whatever was to be done afterward He knew was the plan of His Heavenly Father. Living our passion might translate into relinquishing control over how we will suffer or even what we will suffer. Placing ourselves in total trust as we live the life God has chosen for us means more than deciding for ourselves what sorts of sacrifices we will make for His sake.

The path of Jesus is our path, too. Sometimes the things God asks of us diverge greatly from our own plans. Lent allows us to meditate on this reality as it pertains to what we are called to do – here and now, in this time and place.

Sometimes we think we are meant to do God's work when He is beckoning us to do His will. We believe volunteering for every ministry at church or school, participating in noble and worthy charities, or otherwise doing good is automatically God's will. But that isn't always the case.

There are powerful periods of life in which we seem to be doing nothing at all, yet God is asking us to be recipients of someone else's love, charity, and works of mercy. His will isn't always obvious. We know that. There is a sort of necessary receptivity to the Holy Spirit that must be present in our hearts at all times. Lent makes us more aware of this need to listen to God's voice and to humbly respond with our fiat, even if that means saying "no" to something else that is good.

The way of God is not always our way. When we live our Lent faithfully, God moves in our lives fruitfully.

"Let light shine out of darkness"

- 2 Corinthians 4:6

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PRAYER VIGIL - Every Wednesday:

All are welcome to join our prayer vigil every Wednesday **through March 29 from 11am to 5pm** at Planned Parenthood, 6418 Commerce Park Dr. in Fort Myers.

FIRST FRIDAY of Every Month:

Adoration for a peaceful end to the Death Penalty.

A Prayer for the Respect and Dignity of All Human Life: *God of Life and Love you created us in your image and sent your son to bring us life, from conception to natural death. Empower us to work for justice for the poor. Nourish us that we may bring food to the hungry. Inspire us to cherish the fragile life of the unborn. Strengthen us to bring comfort to the chronically ill. Teach us to treat the aging with dignity and respect. Bring us one day into the glory of everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

CONTACT US:

The Respect Life Ministry is open to all who are interested in learning about LIFE issues from conception to natural death. If you would like to be kept up to date please join our email list at: respectlifejohn23@gmail.com or call the parish office at (239) 561-2245

respect · love · protect

WHAT? NO Diapers?

How do ABORTIONS and DIAPERS relate?

The most common reason given for why abortion is considered for someone facing an unplanned pregnancy is "financial". During the early days of the pandemic, that became nearly the only reason we heard as we met with those facing such a circumstance.

Diapers represent an essential need and one of the largest practical, ongoing expenses new parents face with a newborn baby. Walking the diaper aisle will shock you when you consider the impact of this cost for new parents.

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We provide our parents with a supply of diapers periodically to ease the financial burden.

Our supplies are very low in the following sizes:

- Newborn
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You can help, and there are a few options:

1. Buy diapers and drop them off at Verity.
2. Purchase a gift card to Walmart or Target and mail it or drop it off at Verity. We will do the shopping for you!
3. Order diapers on Amazon or other online retailer and have them delivered to Verity.

Our mommies and daddies thank you!



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7 WAYS TO STRENGTHEN YOUR CATHOLIC

FAITH

Most of us fall into a bit of a spiritual rut every now and then. It happens. But no matter what time of the month or year it is, it's always a good time to expand our horizons in a way that shakes things up and strengthens our Christian faith. As Catholics, there are many opportunities to do so. Here are seven that can help us all.

SILENT MEDITATION OR ADORATION:

Adoration to experience Christ's love. What better gift can we give Jesus (and ourselves) than to spend time adoring Our Savior?

JOIN A CHURCH MINISTRY:

God gives us all unique gifts. Sharing them with our fellow parishioners in service of God, The Church and our neighbors is an excellent way to show God our appreciation.

PRAY THE ROSARY:

You can learn how to pray the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. It's a beautiful way to draw closer to Jesus.

HELP PEOPLE IN NEED:

Volunteering and joyfully giving what we can to assist them is a wonderful way to fulfill your callings.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

It's a powerful way to ask God's forgiveness for our sins and a powerful way to receive that mercy.

PARTICIPATE IN A ONLINE BIBLE STUDY:

Explore and inspire us by giving us new ways to pray to, praise and serve God. The blessings of fellowship and friendship also enhance our lives in amazing ways.

READING AND MEDITATING:

If we hope to understand God's teachings and let them guide us, spending quality time with The Bible will help us accomplish this goal.

WEEKLY BRIDGE GAME



Our weekly bridge group meets every Thursday at 12:30pm in the Parish Life Center. Join us at our next game on **March 30**

If you are interested in playing, please contact:
Jan Krahn at **(239) 689-1142**

Please leave a message if there is no answer, or email at **krahnd@hotmail.com** with "bridge" in the subject line. Please register with Jan before coming to play.

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Catholic Community

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Through Holy Thursday, April 6



Long-Sleeve Relief Drive 2023: Please consider collecting long-sleeve shirts, food, and/or money to benefit our farmworkers. For more information call 888-275-9953 or visit: <https://donorbox.org/long-sleeve-relief-drive-2-2>

The Music Man at St. Francis: St. Francis Xavier Catholic School is proud to present the Music Man. Dates: March 31-April 2. Location: 2055 Heitman Street Ft. Myers, FL. Tickets can be purchased online at www.onthestage.tickets or for more information call (239) 334-7707 x222 or email Ester Kiesel at esther.kiesel@sfxm.org

Help Wanted at Church of Resurrection: We are seeking a bulletin editor/administrative assistant at our church. Duties include creating the bulletin, website updates, church/office/reception support. Microsoft Publisher a must! Full or part time. For more information, contact Melanie Arneri at (239) 481-7171

Sidewalk Counselors Needed: The Fort Myers Planned Parenthood has increased its abortion days to three times per week. The team of Sidewalk Advocates for Life is in need of individuals willing to be trained to offer women life-affirming alternatives and help to save lives. For training information, contact Jeanne Berdeaux, (941) 374-1068 or Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org

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).

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.

Regret Having an Abortion? Hope and healing are available. Contact Sylvia at (941) 412-5860 for confidential help and information about the next Project Rachel One Day Retreat or visit project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org

Safe Environment Training: 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. For further details please visit <https://dioceseofvenice.org/offices/programs/safeenvironment/>

Free Mental Health Counseling: Catholic Charities is providing free mental health counseling services. For help or support, please call our staff at (844) 385-2423 or visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org

SAFETY TIP



with Lee
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BEWARE Suspicious Packages Arriving by Mail

Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno is warning residents to be vigilant about opening unsolicited packages arriving by mail that appear to have originated from China. The packages typically have Chinese characters on the label and may contain mysterious items such as white powder, seeds or jewelry.

At this time, it is unclear who exactly is sending these packages, why they are being distributed and if they are being sent to harm the receiver.



Avoid This Scam:

If you receive a suspicious package in the mail you DID NOT order, the Sheriff's Office is advising you not to open it and limit contact with the package. Immediately call Postal Inspectors at **1-877-876-2455** If you DO OPEN the package and experience a medical or health issue, please call 911.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The link below will take you to a very personal walking of the Stations of the Cross. We encourage you to pray these Stations, and if possible, do it in the St. John XXIII Memorial Garden. You can access this site on your phone and you are all set to start the clockwise walk.

www.osvnews.com/amp/2020/02/27/walking-the-stations-of-the-cross-this-lent/



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