



# ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

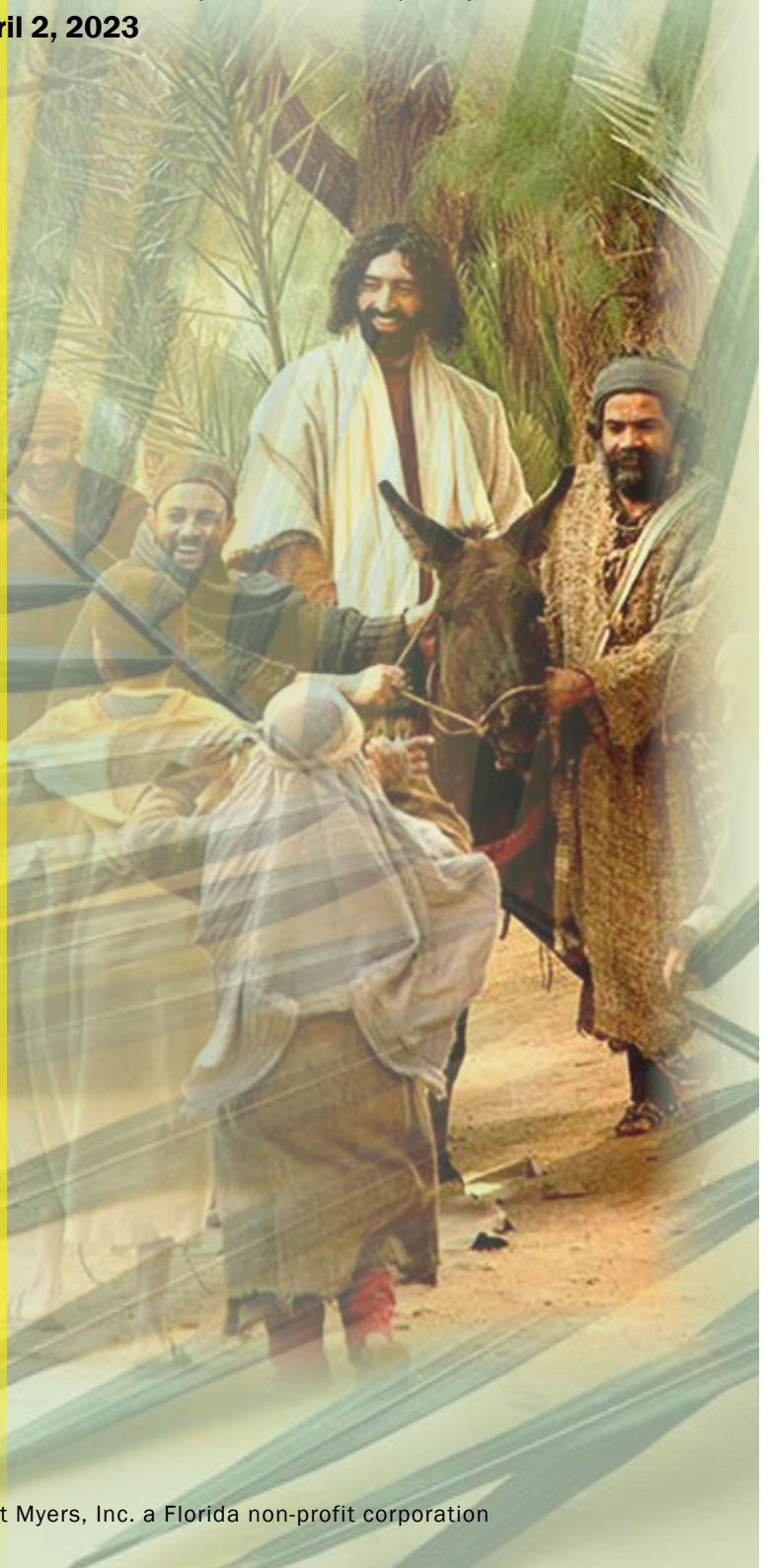
13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912 | P 239-561-2245 | F 239-561-3713 | [www.johnxxiii.net](http://www.johnxxiii.net)

**April 2, 2023**

## PALM *Sunday*

*“The next day, when the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took palm branches and went out to meet him. They kept shouting: Hosanna! He who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed one, the King of Israel.”*

- John 12:12-13



**April 2, 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**  
deaconjpg@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*

**MONDAY, APRIL 3**

- 8:00 AM † Michael Cullen by his wife

**TUESDAY, APRIL 4**

- 8:00 AM † Maria Rozzo by Italo & Anica

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5**

- 8:00 AM † Diane Harvey by Marian Loudon

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6 - HOLY THURSDAY**

- 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer
- 7:00 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper

**FRIDAY, APRIL 7 - GOOD FRIDAY**

- 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer
- 2:15 PM - Stations of the Cross
- 3:00 PM - The Lord's Passion
- 8:00 PM - Vietnamese Passion

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8 - HOLY SATURDAY**

- 8:00 AM - Morning Prayer
- 8:30 AM - Blessing of Food
- **8:00 PM - Vigil Mass (Please NOTE: No 4:00pm Vigil)**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9 - EASTER SUNDAY**

- 7:15 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:15am Masses, 1:30 PM Spanish Mass & 4:00 PM Vietnamese Mass

**MASS INTENTION UPDATE**

The 2023 book is NOW open. Please visit the parish office for requests. Other options will remain available such as Tabernacle Candle \$15 per week and Eucharistic Host \$15 per week.

**APRIL 9, 2023 - EASTER SUNDAY READINGS**

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| • 1ST READING | ACTS 10:34A, 37-43       |
| • PSALM       | PS 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 |
| • 2ND READING | COL 3:1-4                |
| • GOSPEL      | JN 20:1-9                |



**Pastoral Team**

**Business Manager**

**Holly Atkins**  
holly@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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239-561-7499

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239-561-2245

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musicdirector@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

**Youth Ministry**

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kelly@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-3022

**Thrift Store Manager**

**Cynthia Conzatti**  
thrift@johnxxiii.net  
239-433-4097  
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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

# Palm Sunday

## THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF JESUS

by: **Jack Zavada - Learn Religions**

Jesus Christ was on his way to Jerusalem, knowing full well that this trip would end in his sacrificial death for the sin of humanity. He sent two disciples ahead to the village of Bethphage, about a mile away from the city at the foot of the Mount of Olives. He told them to look for a donkey tied by a house, with its unbroken colt next to it.

Jesus instructed the disciples to tell the owners of the animal that "The Lord has need of it." (Luke 19:31, ESV)

The men found the donkey, brought it and its colt to Jesus, and placed their cloaks on the colt. Jesus sat on the young donkey and slowly, humbly, made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. In his path, people threw their cloaks on the ground and put palm branches on the road before him. Others waved palm branches in the air.

Large Passover crowds surrounded Jesus, shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:9, ESV)

By that time the commotion was spreading through the entire city. Many of the Galilean disciples had earlier seen Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead. Undoubtedly they were spreading the news of that astonishing miracle.

The Pharisees, who were jealous of Jesus and afraid of the Romans, said: "Teacher, rebuke your disciples. He answered, I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." (Luke 19:39-40, ESV)

### POINTS OF INTEREST FROM PALM SUNDAY

When he told the disciples to get the donkey, Jesus referred to himself as "The Lord," a definite proclamation of his divinity.

By riding into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey, Jesus fulfilled an ancient prophecy in Zechariah 9:9: *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."* This was the only instance in the four Gospel books in which Jesus rode an animal.

Throwing cloaks in the path of someone was an act of homage and submission. The people were recognizing Jesus as the promised Messiah.

The people's cries of 'Hosanna' came from Psalm 118:25-26. Hosanna means "save now." Despite what Jesus had foretold about his mission, the people were looking for a military Messiah who would overthrow the Romans and restore Israel's independence.

### QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

The crowds refused to see Jesus Christ as he truly was, placing their personal desires on him instead. Who is Jesus for you? Is he someone whom you want to satisfy your selfish wants and goals, or is he Lord and Master who gave up his life to save you from your sins?

# *Palm Sunday*

## **PRAYER**

*Jesus, Lord of Life,  
show us how to live.  
When we are afraid,  
angry, sad or rejected,  
teach us to live deeply  
into difficult experiences,  
that we might find  
meaning and purpose  
even in the moments  
which require dying.  
May our deaths be just  
another step in our living.  
Amen*

## *Prayer List*

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

<b>Marlene LaRose</b>	<b>Laurie Gilligan</b>
<b>Gary Neubauer</b>	<b>Lois Patterson</b>
<b>Ron Hudepohl</b>	<b>Elethia Oliver-Ajose</b>
<b>Laura Ford</b>	<b>Cathy McManus</b>
<b>Tony Gagnet</b>	<b>Jim Aversa</b>
<b>Scott Dugan</b>	<b>Stephen &amp; Connie</b>
<b>Braden O'Halloran</b>	<b>Kahn Le</b>
<b>Infant Anthony Vardaan</b>	<b>Pat Kennedy</b>
<b>Jim Benham</b>	<b>Chris Connolly</b>
<b>Cynthia &amp; William</b>	<b>Karen Yurko</b>
<b>Kevin Ferreira</b>	<b>William Dewes</b>
<b>David</b>	<b>Junemarie Navy</b>
<b>Deborah Young</b>	<b>Floyd Nagler</b>
<b>Jim Bedenko</b>	<b>Maureen Meade Griffin</b>
<b>Kevin Sutton</b>	<b>Sue Yingling</b>
<b>Michael D.</b>	<b>Cheryl Kelly</b>
<b>Hermann Preissler</b>	<b>Katie McCarty</b>
<b>Peg Gaffney</b>	<b>John Birkle</b>

**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](mailto: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!*

**Cliff Verderber**  
**Mark Lattner**



### *Altar Flowers*

Depending on the Liturgical season, flowers may be purchased to commemorate anniversaries, birthdays etc.



For more information contact MaryAnn in the parish office at: [maryann@johnxxiii.net](mailto:maryann@johnxxiii.net) or call the parish office (239) 561-2245



## Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



### Monday, April 3

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

### Tuesday, April 4

- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Walking with Purpose/St. Martha & St. Mary - 10am
- Chrism Mass: Epiphany Cathedral - 10:30am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 6:45pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

### Wednesday, April 5

- Walking with Purpose: ZOOM - 9:30am
- Pastoral Staff Meeting: OCR - 10am
- Adult Choir Practice: Chapel - 6pm



### Thursday, April 6 - Holy Thursday

- Morning Prayer: Chapel - 8am
- Bridge: PLC/St. Michael/St. Bernadette - 12:30pm
- Hispanic Music Rehearsal: PLC/Classroom - 7pm
- Mass of the Lord's Supper: Church - 7pm
- Walking with Purpose: ZOOM - 7pm
- Adoration: Main Hall - 8pm - 10pm

### Friday, April 7 - Good Friday

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
- Morning Prayer: Chapel - 8am
- Stations of the Cross: Church - 2:15pm
- Celebration of the Lord's Passion: Church 3pm
- Vietnamese Passion Service: Church - 8pm

### Saturday, April 8 - Holy Saturday

- Morning Prayer: Chapel - 8am
- Blessing of Food: Church - 8:30am
- Spanish Baptism Class: PLC/Classroom
- **VIGIL MASS: CHURCH - 8PM (PLEASE NOTE TIME)**

### Sunday, April 9 - Easter Sunday

- 7:15am, 9:15am & **11:15am \* Livestreamed**
- Children's Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 8:45am
- RCIA: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 10:15am
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm \* *via YouTube*
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 4pm



### WATCH AT HOME

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

### ONLINE

[www.dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/communications/tvmass/](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/communications/tvmass/)

## WELCOME

### *New Parishioners*

- William & Eileen Flemming
- Carlos Delfin & Neydel Vergara
- Anthony & Christine DeCaprio
- Michael & Stephanie Sassi
- Kevin & Jacqueline Connolly

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](http://www.johnxxiii.net)

Frequently, those seeking to celebrate marriage, baptisms or serve as sponsors for confirmation or baptism, request a letter stating that they are parishioners. To receive such a letter, 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    |

# A MESSAGE FROM

*Bishop Dewane*

## Holy Land COLLECTION



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Gospel readings come to life in a special way during Holy Week. The Holy Scripture reminds us of our special connection to the Holy Land where the life, death and resurrection of Jesus took place; a place so special to us all and where His great story unfolded.

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken in Catholic Churches throughout the world to assist Christians in the Holy Land. Supporting the Church in the Holy Land is an historic mission; a responsibility to sustain the land where Jesus walked. The Holy Land Collection provides aid to parishes and academic institutions, helps keep schools open, restore and maintain homes for Christian families, feed the hungry and care for the elderly, and preserves shrines from the life of Jesus, the Apostles and the prophets.

The Diocese of Venice will hold a Collection for The Holy Land on **Good Friday, April 7, 2023**. The support received by this Collection helps to preserve a Christian presence in the very land made holy by the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. Thank you for your generosity!

This opportunity is taken to extend to you my continued consideration as well as my prayer for you and your family.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Frank J. Dewane*

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



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:** 1:30pm (Parish Life Center)

**Mass:** 3:00pm (Parish Life Center)

# How to Become

# HOLY

## 10 WAYS TO GROW IN HOLINESS

A reminder and encouragement is given to all of the Universal Call to Holiness for all Christians. Listed below are some practical means to growth in holiness, growth in love of God and neighbor, and prosper love of self, which are encouraged to be taken advantage of and fostered in the spiritual lives of all the faithful within the Diocese of Venice:

- **Participation in the Mass, Daily Mass in addition to the Sunday when Possible**
- **Frequent Confession (recommended at least once per month)**
- **Meditation on Sacred Scripture**
- **The Recitation of the Rosary**
- **Spiritual Reading within the Tradition of the Church**
- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Personal Prayer**
- **Acts of Self-Denial and Mortification**
- **A Renewal Zeal for Fasting and Almsgiving**
- **Evangelization and Faith Sharing**
- **Ascetical Practices to Grow in Virtue**

For recommendations on spiritual reading, availability of Sacraments, Bible studies, spiritual devotions and practices, and faith sharing groups, please contact:

THE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION  
**(941) 484-9543**  
[evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org)

# THE History OF PALM SUNDAY

**William James - Catholic Exchange**

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, in the Christian tradition, the first day of Holy Week and the Sunday before Easter, commemorating Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. It is associated in many churches with the blessing and procession of palms (leaves of the date palm or twigs from locally available trees).

These special ceremonies were taking place toward the end of the 4th century in Jerusalem and are described in the travelogue Peregrinatio Etheriae (The Pilgrimage of Etheria). In the West the earliest evidence of the ceremonies is found in the Bobbio Sacramentary (8th century). During the Middle Ages the ceremony for the blessing of the palms was elaborate: the procession began in one church, went to a church in which the palms were blessed, and returned to the church in which the procession had originated for the singing of the liturgy. The principal feature of the liturgy that followed the procession was the chanting by three deacons of the account of the Passion of Christ (Matthew 26:36–27:54). Musical settings for the crowd parts were sometimes sung by the choir. After reforms of the Roman Catholic liturgies in 1955 and 1969, the ceremonies were somewhat simplified in order to emphasize the suffering and death of Christ.

The day is now called officially Passion Sunday. The liturgy begins with a blessing and procession of palms, but prime attention is given to a lengthy reading of the Passion, with parts taken by the priest, lectors, and congregation. The palms are often taken home by the members of the congregation to serve as sacramentals (sacred signs of the sacraments), and some of them are burned the following year to serve as the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

# 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.



Welcome



**PAULA FROIO**  
**Faith Formation Assistant**

St. John XXIII Catholic Church is proud to introduce **PAULA FROIO** as the new Faith Formation Assistant. We look forward to experience her faith and commitment to our Parish team!

## *About Paula:*

I am originally from South Jersey and have recently relocated to Florida, with my husband, Gregg and our dog, Thor.

We will have been married 34 years in April and we have two grown children, Kelly and Tom.

We love ALL Philly Sports Teams, especially the Eagles and the Phillies!

Prior to coming here, I was a Senior Executive and Pastoral Care Coordinator at St. John of God Community Services, where we worked with special needs children and adults. I am looking forward to meeting everyone and working with the children of our parish.





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

### Rooted at St. John XXIII

**Welcoming all Young Adults 18 - 39**

Rooted meets on the first Thursday of each month.

- **May 4:** Please check the Facebook page for more information. **(NO APRIL 6 SESSION)**



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

### Confirmation Program:

Sundays 5pm - 6pm

Both Year one and Year two students must register through our parish website under the Sacraments tab. Program begins in September each year.

### High School Youth Group

**HSYG Social Sessions:** Sundays 11:15am Mass and Social

REGISTRATION and SCHEDULE are located under the EDUCATION TAB on Parish Website.

### Middle School Youth Group

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

Registration and the schedule are located under the education tab on Parish Website.

### Youth Council

**Meets Quarterly:** The mission of St. John XXIII Youth Council is to challenge and equip children of God with the tools to inspire and disciple others while giving a voice to young leaders to serve, love and grow with the St. John XXIII Community.

### Volunteer Opportunitites

Visit Sign up Genius website at:  
[www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c45aead2daaf58-youth](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c45aead2daaf58-youth)



## 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://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



**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@johnxxiii.net](mailto:bethany@johnxxiii.net)



## 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](http://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](http://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/](http://johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/)
- **St. John XXIII Thrift Store:** Hours are Monday-Friday 10am-5pm and Saturday 10am-4pm. For more information email [thrift@johnxxiii.net](mailto:thrift@johnxxiii.net) or visit [www.bpjthrift.com](http://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 expirations dates.
- **Keep Our Database Current:** Have you moved, changed email addresses, dropped a landline or changed your cell number? Please email [maryann@johnxxiii.net](mailto: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

## POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

# 2023

### APRIL:

#### FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE

We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

For more information:

[www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/](http://www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/)



## ST. JOHN XXIII

# THRIFT store



Selling quality goods for the good of others.

# APRIL

**50% OFF** Photo Frames, Hanging Light Fixtures (*does NOT include fans*)

**35% OFF** Costume Jewelry, Footwear, Underwear, Socks

**20% OFF** Clothing, Easter items, Sets of China/Dishes (*specials cannot be combined with other sales/offers*)

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM - 5PM

SATURDAY - 10AM - 4PM

[www.bpjthrift.com](http://www.bpjthrift.com)



**ST. JOHN XXIII**  
Catholic Church

## Weekly Financials



	<b>3-26-23</b>	<b>3-27-22</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Offertory	\$35,233.09	\$42,189.66	(\$6,956.57)
Building Fund	\$2,300.50	\$2,240.50	\$60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,533.59</b>	<b>\$44,430.16</b>	<b>(\$6,896.57)</b>
Mass Attendance	4023	3438	
Registered Families	3703	3531	

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	\$293,710.00
Payments	<b>\$196,527.66</b>

## Planning Your Will



### Remember St. John XXIII

A bequest is a wonderful way to express gratitude to God for a lifetime of blessings! The gift you give establishes a lasting legacy of love for others by helping the Church to continue our Catholic heritage through its many ministries.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Leaving money to the Parish in your will is not assessed and 100% goes to the parish.

The following is possible wording for including a bequest in your will:

*"I bequeath the greater of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_% of the residue of my estate to Bishop Frank J. Dewane, (or his successor), Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida, a corporation sole, whose principal office is located at 1000 Pinebrook Rd., Venice, FL 34285, For the benefit of St. John XXIII Catholic Parish, in Fort Myers, Inc."*

The actual wording in your will should be determined by you and your attorney.

For more information, questions, or wish to consider a gift annuity or trust for St. John XXIII Catholic Church, then please email:

**Holly Atkins: [holly@johnxxiii.net](mailto:holly@johnxxiii.net)**



## ENDOWMENT FUND



### For Good, For God, Forever

St. John XXIII now has an endowment fund with the Catholic Community Foundation, which is designed to help provide long-term sustainability for our parish far beyond our lifetimes.

The principal of the endowment fund remains intact, while a portion of the investment earnings are used to support the parish.

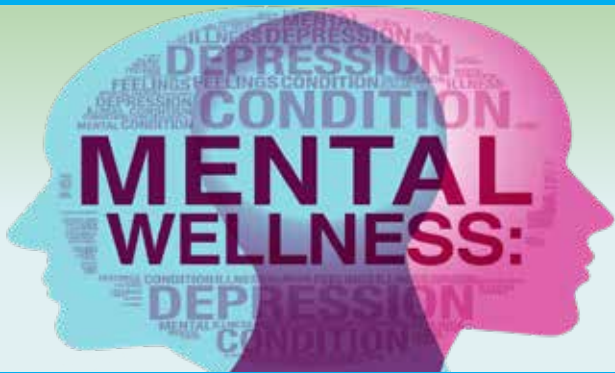
Please consider supporting the endowment fund or establishing your own fund to benefit St. John XXIII. For more information email our parish office manager, Holly Atkins: [holly@johnxxiii.net](mailto:holly@johnxxiii.net)



### Donors give THROUGH, not TO the FOUNDATION

The Catholic Community Foundation helps create lasting Catholic legacies by working with you to provide long-term support and sustainability to the Catholic entities and programs about which you care most, like St. John XXIII Parish. The foundation ensures that your gifts will always be used in the manner you intended and is the only community foundation in Southwest Florida that invests all gifts in alignment with the teachings our Catholic faith.

The Catholic Community Foundation offers a wide range of gifting options including endowment/scholarship funds, charitable gift annuities, donor advised funds and more. The foundation can also help you coordinate a bequest of other estate gifts through your will or trust.



## THE GLORY OF THE CROSS

by Joanne Halt, M.A.

Reverencing the cross on Good Friday always stirs my heart as I watch our community honor by some gesture or touch, the cross - symbol of our Savior's love for us. Whether we come forward feeling stressed, depressed or grateful, we walk up to that cross knowing earth life is full of our own or others' failure. The cross shouts that reality. Triduum tells our salvation story-we no longer have to feel painful shame; guilt can be a pathway to growth. Shame is the feeling of being fundamentally flawed and unworthy of love, belonging and connection. It thrives in secret negative self-judgement and fuels addictions. Shame doesn't lead to positive change. Guilt occurs when we assess that our behavior does not match our values and it can drive positive change. Political and religious leaders were convinced that a humiliating crucifixion would be the end of the prophet who stirred up the people with proofs of their worth (teachings, miracles). Jesus had no shame or guilt, but he carried ours to the cross freeing us from this double emotional burden. He gave us a Way, a spiritual GPS to navigate our inevitable failures. *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* (Jn 16:32-33) Research has shown that having a spiritual practice is protective of our mental health. And I get how that works, especially on Good Friday. Resurrection joy is our alleluia of thanks for the all-embracing presence of Love.



In order to be happy and fulfilled, we must help, love and care for others. On March 4, our Journey to Hope team was one of 87 teams that raised \$104,440 to support NAMI's advocacy, support groups and free education for local individuals living with a mental illness and their families. We thank contributors for helping us be the fourth team in terms of funds raised (\$3,520). Be blessed a hundredfold.



# FOOD

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church parking lot

NON-PERISHABLE

SATURDAY, APRIL 15  
10AM-1PM



PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

# FRIDAY FISH FRY



## FRIDAY, APRIL 21

5:30PM TO 7:30PM - PARISH LIFE CENTER

The Knights of Columbus will be holding the last fish fry on **Friday, April 21** from **6:00pm to 7:30pm** in the Parish Life Center. **The dinner will include:** fish, french fries, coleslaw, beverages and dessert.

**ADULTS: \$15 children 12 & under: \$10**

Tickets will be available in the Narthex the weekend of April 15-16. **LIMIT 130 TICKETS**





# The Knights of Columbus presents *Fraternal Benefits Night*

JOIN US

You and your wife are cordially invited to attend a 'Fraternal Benefits Night' ... an evening of valuable information sponsored by your Knights of Columbus Field Agent.

Come learn the many ways your membership in the Order can benefit you and your family.

Prospective members are welcome.

**MONDAY, APRIL 10**  
7:15PM - PARISH LIFE CENTER  
[www.fbn13624.flkofc.com](http://www.fbn13624.flkofc.com)

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# ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

Contact: **Richard Owen** | [musicdirector@johnxxiii.net](mailto: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](mailto: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 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.



## QR CODE

*Contemporary Mass AND  
Praise & Worship*

**PLEASE USE THE QR CODE** for hymns used at both the Contemporary Mass and Praise & Worship.



Join us the **last Sunday of the month** in the Church for our Contemporary Mass at 4:00pm and the **second Sunday of the month** at 4:00pm in the Chapel for Praise & Worship (**PLEASE NOTE** due to Easter, Praise & Worship is changed to Sunday, April 2)

# RESPECT

# LIFE



## SIDEWALK COUNSELORS NEEDED

At the **FORT MYERS PLANNED PARENTHOOD CLINIC**

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** at (941) 374-1068 or email: [Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org)

### JOIN US:

#### 365 PRAYER:

Come join in 365 prayer every Wednesday any time from **12pm-5:00pm** at Planned Parenthood: 6418 Commerce Park Dr. Fort Myers

#### FIRST FRIDAY of Every Month:

If you are at the Adoration Chapel, we ask that during the regular hours people offer up special prayers for an end to the death penalty.

### CONTACT US:

If you would like more information, or interested in volunteering, email: [respectlifejohn23@gmail.com](mailto:respectlifejohn23@gmail.com)



*respect · love · protect*

# Divine Mercy Sunday

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16: PARISH LIFE CENTER 3:00PM**

Join us for a very special celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday is the Sunday following Easter, on April 16. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Veneration of the image of the Divine Mercy and confessions will be heard starting at 1:30pm in the Parish Life Center classrooms.

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us — all of us. And, he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

## DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday, April 7. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena, saving for the last day the most difficult intention of all, the lukewarm and indifferent of whom He said:

*“These souls cause Me more suffering than any others; it was from such souls that My soul felt the most revulsion in the Garden of Olives. It was on their account that I said: ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass Me by.’ The last hope of salvation for them is to flee to My Mercy.”*

In her diary, St. Faustina wrote that Jesus told her:

*“On each day of the novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy ... On each day you will be My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls.”*

## TO COMPLETE THE NOVENA:

### EVERY DAY AT 3 RECITE THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:

- **April 7 - First Day:** Good Friday, April 7: Bring to Me All Mankind, especially all sinners
- **April 8:** Bring to me the Souls of Priests and Religious.
- **April 9:** Bring to me all devout and faithful souls.
- **April 10:** Bring to me those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know me
- **April 11:** Bring to me the souls of those who have separated themselves from my church.
- **April 12:** Bring to me the meek and humble souls and the souls of little children.
- **April 13:** Bring to me the souls who especially venerate and glorify my mercy.
- **April 14:** Bring to me the souls who are detained in purgatory.
- **April 15:** Bring to me souls who have become lukewarm.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY PLENARY INDULGENCE:** In a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!”).



Our Holy Fathers have told us that Divine Mercy is the greatest attribute of God, and it is especially needed in our modern, secular times. All are invited to attend our Divine Mercy Service to receive these powerful graces and blessings of Mercy.

*Jesus, I Trust in You*

## To fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should:

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus
4. Confess your sins to Jesus before that Sunday
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast
6. Venerate\* the Image of The Divine Mercy
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

\*To venerate a sacred image or statue simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents in this case, our Most Merciful Savior.

For a complete background and detailed information on Divine Mercy Sunday visit [thedivinemercy.org](http://thedivinemercy.org)



**CONFESSIONS** will be held prior to Mass from 1:30pm-3pm in The Parish Life Center classrooms.

**DIVINE MERCY MASS** will take place at 3:00pm in the Parish Life Center Main Hall.

**YOUTUBE:** For more information on Divine Mercy Sunday from our own parishioner, Ryan Arciero, please follow this youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZov0GpMdk8&t=2s>

## Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

**Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday Televised Mass:** The Diocese of Venice in Florida will air the televised Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Masses, each for a full hour. The Masses can be viewed at 9:00am on the CW Network in Sarasota, Manatee, Desoto, Charlotte, Hardee and Highland counties, and at 10:30am on FOX4 in Charlotte, Lee, Collier, Hendry, Glades and Desoto counties. The Mass is also available on the Diocese website at [www.dioceseofvenice.org/tvmass](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/tvmass)

**Diocese Flocknote:** The Diocese of Venice is now using Flocknote to communicate with the faithful. If you are not signed up for Flocknote, but would like to receive messages, simply text DIOCESE OF VENICE to 84576, or connect with us online at [www.dioceseofvenice.flocknote.com](http://www.dioceseofvenice.flocknote.com)

**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/>

**Novena of Masses for Life:** Participate in a Mass near you and pray for life! Visit [www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife](http://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](mailto:project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org)

**Spiritual Abortion:** You are invited to begin a 9-month journey of spiritually adopting an unborn child who is at risk of being killed by abortion. Through prayer, you will be united with the mother of this child who is considering the decision of abortion. For a pamphlet or prayer card contact [Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org) or 941-374-1068

**Sign Up for Digital Florida Catholic:** Florida Catholic e-Edition is FREE! Keep up to date on the latest news from across the Diocese of Venice by signing up now for the weekly digital paper at <https://dioceseofvenice.org/news/>. The Florida Catholic also includes Catholic news from Florida, the U.S., and the Vatican. (Website and bulletin editors, please use this link for the latest e-Edition website: <http://Venice.thefloridacatholic.org>)

**Witnessing Faith:** Join Bishop Frank J. Dewane the last Friday of the month, for his monthly radio program on Relevant Radio on 106.7 FM and 1410 AM in Fort Myers and 93.3 FM and 1660 AM in Naples. Outside of the listening area, access to the program is available at <https://dioceseofvenice.org/our-bishop/relevant-radio-podcasts>

**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](http://www.catholiccharitiesdov.org)

**Free Rosary Repair:** Send your broken rosaries in a padded envelope to Betty and Dick Holden, Free Rosary Repair Service, 7278 Salerno Court, Naples 34114. Rosaries will be repaired and returned within the week of receipt. Donations of old rosaries are also accepted which will be repaired and sent to missions. Include a note indicating repair or donation. For more details, please call (239) 463-3993 or email [holdenbnd@gmail.com](mailto:holdenbnd@gmail.com)



## APRIL 11 PARISH LIFE CENTER

Doors open at 5:30pm  
Games begin at 6:30pm

**MUST BE 21 TO PLAY**

*All proceeds will go to a charity in our community.*



**THURSDAY, APRIL 13 - 6PM**

St. John XXIII - Main Hall

[www.faihandale.com](http://www.faihandale.com)

**Guest Speaker:  
DENNIS SOLON**

SWFL Coalition Against Human Trafficking

**Understanding Human Trafficking:  
Protecting Your Children and  
Grandchildren in a Cyber World**





## 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/](http://www.osvnews.com/amp/2020/02/27/walking-the-stations-of-the-cross-this-lent/)



Join the Women's Guild **SUNDAY, MAY 7**

# SISTER ACT

LIMITED SEATING IS AVAILABLE

Tickets are **NON-REFUNDABLE**  
as this is a Fundraiser

Follow Deloris, a disco diva, as she witnesses a crime and the cops hide her in the last place anyone would think to look in a convent! Masquerading as a nun, and under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. She makes new friends and breathes new life into the church, but in the process, blows her cover! This high-spirited musical comedy is a shining tribute to the universal power of friendship.

**TICKET PRICE \$70 EACH**     **DINING ROOM OPENS AT 5:30PM**  
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