



# 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 9, 2023**

# He Is Risen!

*"He is not here, for  
He has risen, just  
as He said. Come,  
see the place where  
He lay."*

- Matthew 28:5-6

**April 9, 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 10**

- 8:00 AM † Ralph Schaaake by Richard

**TUESDAY, APRIL 11**

- 8:00 AM † Carolyn & Clyde McCoy by Donald Perkins

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12**

- 8:00 AM † Darren McCarthy by Corvette Club friends

**THURSDAY, APRIL 13**

- 8:00 AM † Maria Fioribello by her family

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14**

- 8:00 AM † Romeo Perez by George & Leticia Lacson

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15**

- 8:00 AM † John Mari by Faye & Jim Vogt
- 4:00 PM † Gilberto Rios by his wife, Nereida
- 8:00 PM † All Souls - Vietnamese Mass

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16 - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

- 7:15 AM † William Constantine by his family
- 9:15 AM † Deceased Members of Brummer family by Marilyn
- 11:15 AM † Nick Kokotovich by his family
- 1:30 PM ♥ Margarita Montalvo by Yesenia Garcia
- 3:00 PM - Divine Mercy - Parish Life Center

**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 16, 2023 - READINGS**

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| • 1ST READING | ACTS 2:42-47             |
| • PSALM       | PS 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 |
| • 2ND READING | 1 PT 1:3-9               |
| • GOSPEL      | JN 20:19-31              |

*Divine Mercy Sunday*

**SUDNAY, APRIL 16**

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

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



**Pastoral Team**

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239-561-2245



# He Is Risen!

## RESURRECTION: HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

by: **Laura Bagby - CBN News**

Easter Sunday. To many it means the Easter bunny, a day of food and celebration. For some it is an obligatory church-attending holiday, after which life goes on as usual.

How sad that we have so quickly forgotten the true meaning of Easter. Our God reigns! Jesus Christ died, yes. But even more importantly, He rose again and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father, as we say in the Creed.

Jesus Christ literally defied death. But He did more than just a Houdini move. We “ooo” and “ahhh” over the narrow escapes by magicians like David Copperfield and others, but eventually even those daredevils will face death. Their power is limited.

But Jesus Christ was greater - He defied death FOREVER. Jesus Christ lives and reigns for eternity, whether you or I believe that fact or not.

And He has reclaimed life for all those who believe in Him. This is the second miracle of Easter. Through God’s work on the cross, we have access to eternal life as well:

- *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith’ (Romans 1:16-17).*
- *If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved (Romans 10:9-10).*
- *Whosoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven (Matt. 10:32-33).*

Please consider today the wonder of God’s power and His love for you. He knows you. He knows what you have done. He knows what you are going to do. But He is waiting for your response, my friend. God doesn’t need your praise or your service to Him; He desires it. It is not what we do for God that gets us into heaven and gives us a right relationship with God. It is only by faith in Jesus Christ. Look at these Scriptures:

- *Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified (Galatians 2:16).*
- *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not by works so that no one can boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).*

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day.*

- Corinthians 15:3-4

# Easter Sunday

## PRAYER

*Jesus, Risen Savior, we rejoice  
with You today. You have  
risen! Alleluia, Alleluia. With  
You we celebrate new life, new  
beginnings, new hope and new  
joy. May Your risen glory shine  
through us in all that we do and  
say. We praise God for raising  
You up and for giving us the gift  
of Your eternal presence.*

*Amen*

**"I am the  
resurrection  
and the life.  
He who  
believes in  
me will live,  
even though  
he dies; and  
whoever lives  
and believes in  
me will never  
die."**

*- John 11:25-26*

## 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  
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  
Floyd Nagler  
Maureen Meade Griffin  
Sue Yingling  
Cheryl Kelly  
Katie McCarty  
John Birkle

**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!*

**Deceased Members of St. John XXIII**



## STOCKING OUR FOOD PANTRIES

Please consider bringing a food item to church with  
you each week and put it in the baskets provided in  
our Narthex. This allows us to help stock three food  
pantries in our community on a regular basis. Please  
bring in NONPERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY.







**ST. JOHN XXIII**  
Catholic Church

## Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



### Monday, April 10

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
- KofC Monthly Meeting: Main Hall - 6pm

### Tuesday, April 11

- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Bingo: Main Hall (Doors open 5:30pm/Games 6:30pm)
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 6:45pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

### Wednesday, April 12

- Pastoral Staff Meeting: OCR - 10am
- Faith Formation Session 1: PLC - 4:15pm
- Adult Choir Practice: Chapel - 6pm
- Middle School Youth Group: Main Hall - 6pm
- Faith Formation Session 2: PLC - 7pm



### Thursday, April 13

- Manor Care Mass - 10am
- Bridge: PLC/St. Michael/St. Bernadette - 12:30pm
- Faith & Ale: Main Hall - 6pm - 9pm
- Hispanic Music Rehearsal: PLC/Classroom - 7pm
- Walking with Purpose: ZOOM - 7pm

### Friday, April 14

- Adoration Chapel open regular hours: 8am-3:45pm

### Saturday, April 15

- KofC Food Drive: Parking Lot - 10am - 1pm
- Vigil Mass: Church - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 8pm

### Sunday, April 16 - DIVINE MERCY

- 7:15am, 9:15am & **11:15am \* Livestreamed**
- 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
- Blaze Bible Study: St. Therese - 12:15pm
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm \* *via YouTube*
- Carmelite Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 1:30pm
- Divine Mercy Reconciliation: PLC/ St. Bernadette & St. Michael Classrooms - 1:30 - 3pm
- Divine Mercy Mass: Main Hall - 3pm



### 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*

- **Matthew & Laura Medlin**
- **Nicholas & Svetlana Sassi**
- **Leonard & Barbara Tafro**
- **Michael & Monica Damit**
- **Herydany Uscanga Arano**

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



## 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/stjohnxxiiichurch/>
- **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 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](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

## What is Resurrection?



Why are eggs associated with Easter? Why are they such a powerful symbol of resurrection? Resurrection is transformation. The symbols of resurrection are many. So then, why eggs and Easter? An egg is totally changed. What is yellow and white liquid becomes alive with feathers and a chirp. If you look at the liquid of eggs alone, you would never tell what they would become. A liquid goo becomes a chicken – a sea gull, crow or magpie. Another Easter symbol is the seed, or acorn. You can look at a seed and never imagine what color it may turn out to have. Similarly with a caterpillar and butterfly. These are resurrection symbols because they become something else, totally unforeseen and beautiful. And yet there is continuity: the egg becomes a chicken; an acorn becomes an oak-tree; a caterpillar becomes a butterfly.

There are also human resurrection symbols: persons recovering from drug addiction or alcoholism become what they have despaired of happening. They are the same persons, but now transformed; they have new life, new hopes, and new possibilities. Another resurrection symbol might be a teenager becoming an adult: he or she is the same, but different with the new beauties of maturity.

The resurrection is an invitation to look around to see transformation, to see what is evil being changed, what is immature becoming adult; what appears inert like an egg or seed sprouting life.

But for the Christian, the resurrection has a still richer meaning. Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures.

The first thing we can see is that Jesus "was raised on the third day." Who raised him? The Father by the power of the Holy Spirit (see Romans 1:3-4; 8:11). When we look at the resurrection appearances we notice that Jesus is not at first recognized by those who loved him and who were his close associates or disciples. The exception seems to be the Beloved Disciple who had special insight (see John 20:8; 21:7). The others come to faith; indeed faith was necessary to identify Jesus. The Risen Jesus is then the same but different. This can be put in another way by saying that Jesus is not resuscitated, but is resurrected.

Christ is risen, and has promised to take us with him. This life is not the end; we too will be transformed in endless life and beauty. Human life is good, but it will end. The resurrection gives hope and meaning to our existence here. We will be raised in His glory.



## Special Thank You

On behalf of the St. John XXIII staff, we would like to thank all the volunteers and ministries who made Holy Week so wonderful. Your dedication allows us to appreciate the beauty of the Easter season!



***Thank you for your continued love and support of our Parish Community!***

## EASTER JELLY BEAN PRAYER

**RED** Signifies all the love Jesus showed.

**PURPLE** Signifies the sadness of this death.

**ORANGE** Signifies the setting sun on that faithful Good Friday.

**BLACK** Signifies the nights Jesus spent in the tomb.

**YELLOW** Signifies the brightness of the Easter morning sun.

**PINK** Signifies our joy.

**WHITE** Symbolizes the Easter candle.

**GREEN** Symbolizes the hope, promise and new life of spring.

A bag of jellybeans colorful and sweet is a remembrance, a prayer, and a treat.

***Have a wonderful Easter!***

## GOOD STEWARD OF INFLUENCE



God has given of us  
**A GIFT**  
from His great variety of  
**SPIRITUAL GIFTS**  
*Use them well to serve one another.*  
1 Peter 4:10

Everything you have is a gift from God; your health, your life, your salvation, your freedom, your friends, your family, your opportunities. God expects you to make the most of the things He gives you. The word for that in the Bible is called "stewardship."

Stewardship is the Old English word for "management." And just as you manage your time and your money, you also manage your influence.

God expects you to use your influence to help other people. What is influence? The Cambridge Dictionary defines influence as, "the power to affect how someone develops, acts or thinks." God expects you to be an influence.

You should want to be influential. In fact, it's quite selfish to say, "I don't really care about the rest of the world. I don't care about helping anybody else. I'm just thinking about little ol' me." In fact, Jesus commands that you use your influence for good in this world. You were put here to be an influence for good. God wants you to do that.

What we need in this world is a lot more positive influence. There are problems that need to be fixed and causes that need to be advanced, especially the cause of telling the whole world about Jesus, and we need every Christian to be influencing the world on Jesus' behalf. Here are some tips:

**RECOGNIZE YOUR INFLUENCE:** Stop and think about who you influence, and how you best influence them. Take inventory of your experiences, your talents and abilities, your passions and interests. And think about the people you seem to connect with the best. Realize that you do have influence and you simply need to recognize it.

**EXERCISE YOUR INFLUENCE:** Influence is like a muscle—use it or lose it. Most of us have far more influence than we've ever imagined. The influence that you have can be incredibly more powerful if you and I would just take the simple step of being a little more intentional about our influence.

**MAXIMIZE YOUR INFLUENCE:** There are only two legitimate reasons for expanding your influence. One is ministry and the other is mission. In other words, you expand your influence in order to help more people and to bring more people to Jesus. Any other reason for expanding your influence is illegitimate, self-centered, and selfish. On the other hand, there is almost nothing that God will not do for the person whose ultimate goal is the glory of God.



# Faith FORMATION

Contact: Frannie Cerniglia | 561-7499 | [franniedre@johnxxxiii.net](mailto:franniedre@johnxxxiii.net)

SAVE  
THE  
DATES

**June 26 - June 30**



**Vacation Bible School**

*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.



## **ACCESS ON THE GO!**



There are two ways to get FORMED right at your fingertips:

1. Apple users can download the iOS app.
2. Android users can use FORMED on the go with these easy instructions.

Discover all the best Catholic content in one place! Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks, and a great selection of popular ebooks. All just a click away! Take advantage of your FREE subscription to FORMED.

### **HERE IS HOW EASY IT IS:**

- 1.) Go to **[formed.org](http://formed.org)**
  - 2.) Click on Register
  - 3.) Create your FREE account by entering our parish code and your email address.
- Our Parish Code is **1823ee**

## Information Websites

Below are suggested websites to stay current on what is happening in the Catholic church:

**WHISPERS IN THE LOGGIA:**  
**[whispersintheloggia.blogspot.com](http://whispersintheloggia.blogspot.com)**

**CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE:**  
**[www.catholicnews.com](http://www.catholicnews.com)**

**CRUX:**  
**[cruxnow.com](http://cruxnow.com)**

**BISHOP BARRON:**  
**[www.wordonfire.org](http://www.wordonfire.org)**

**FR. RICHARD ROHR:**  
**[cac.org/category/daily-meditations](http://cac.org/category/daily-meditations)**





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.



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 Opportunities

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



## *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](mailto: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**





# 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**  
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ST. JOHN XXIII  
Catholic Church

## Weekly Financials



NO UPDATE	3-26-23	3-27-22	Difference
Offertory	\$35,233.09	\$42,189.66	(\$6,956.57)
Building Fund	\$2,300.50	\$2,240.50	\$60.00
Total	\$37,533.59	\$44,430.16	(\$6,896.57)
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)



## GIVING TO THE CFA Through a Qualified Charitable Distribution

In 2020 the law changed, requiring those 72 years old or older to begin taking a required minimum distribution (RMD) from their individual retirement account (IRA). However, only those who will turn 70½ (born on or after July 1, 1949) in 2020 or later may wait until age 72 to begin taking required distributions. If you are currently receiving RMDs (or should be) because you are over age 70½, you must continue taking these RMDs.

### FOR TRADITIONAL ACCOUNTS THIS INCOME IS TAXABLE!

To avoid paying taxes on this income while also meeting the obligation of the RMD, you may designate the distribution as a gift directly from the IRA custodian to the CFA. You can donate up to \$100,000 and married couples can donate up to \$200,000 if the spouse has a separate IRA.

Help lower your tax burden while making a **GIFT OF HOPE** to those in your community!

### DOUBLE YOUR GIFT

Matching gifts are a type of corporate philanthropy that allows donors giving smaller donations the opportunity to maximize the impact of their donation on an organization.



In a matching gifts program, a company donates to a nonprofit organization in response to one of their employees giving a gift.

These gifts can range in maximum sizes and ratio, but many companies will match an employee's donation at a 1:1 ration, starting at \$25. Retirees and/or spouses may also qualify.

To find out if your company offers a matching gift program, please visit:

<https://dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/stewardship-and-development/matching-gifts/>

# Thank You!



**CYNTHIA KONZATTI**  
**Thrift Store Manager**

On behalf of the entire parish staff, we would like to sincerely thank Cynthia for her dedication over the last 14 ½ years. We wish her many retirement blessings on her new journey!

## *Message from Cynthia:*

Retiring after 14 ½ years as Manager of the Thrift Store is bittersweet. I am ready to relax and leave the heavy lifting behind, but I will miss the family we have created. It was a blessing working with many wonderful volunteers, staff and donors who made what we have accomplished possible. For over a decade Barb Durkin, Gloria Larson, and Rosendo Herrera worked with me to build a foundation for the successful thrift store that we have today. Many thanks to the dedicated, hardworking, volunteers and thrift staff, past and present that are still rolling up their sleeves and continuing our mission. You have been the backbone of our success and I count on you to continue our mission after I am gone. Take care of our baby, Cynthia

## April is National Donate Life Month



Register today to be an organ, eye and tissue donor.  
**RegisterMe.org**

National Donate Life Month (NDLM) was instituted by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003. Celebrated in April each year, NDLM features an entire month of local, regional and national activities to help encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation.

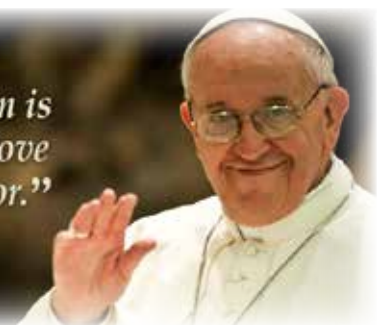
Donate Life America was inspired by the concept of the pinwheel for the 2017 National Donate Life Month artwork. A pinwheel evokes various images and meanings, but the strongest association revolves around opportunity and energy.

The pinwheel is symbolic of an instrument that turns obstacles into opportunities. The pinwheel's ability to capture and pass on energy parallels one's potential to make LIFE possible. Each Donate Life pinwheel has four sails supported by one stem, symbolizing the power one person has to be an organ, eye, tissue or living donor. For recipients, donation can turn sickness and injury into a second chance at life. For donors, their decision to register can turn a sorrowful time into a source of comfort for family as a result of renewed life for others.

The pinwheel reminds us that we all have the potential to capture and pass on life, comfort and hope to others by registering as a donor. This April, we encourage you to stop to feel the breeze, watch the pinwheels and think of the lives of those touched by donation and transplantation.

Thank you for your efforts in educating and registering others as organ, eye and tissue donors! For more information visit: [www.donatelife.net](http://www.donatelife.net)

*"Organ donation is  
a testimony of love  
for our neighbor."*







## ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

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



## Giving Witness:

St. John XXIII is inviting individuals to share short personal testimonies about how the Lord works in their lives.

If you would like to share something meaningful with our congregation, please reach out to: [Musicedirector@johnxxiii.net](mailto:Musicedirector@johnxxiii.net)



# FOOD

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**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**



# EASTER FUN FACTS

- The tallest Easter egg chocolate was made in Italy in 2011. It stood at 10.39 meters and weighed an astounding 7,200 kg.
- The art of painting eggs is called pysanka, which originated in Ukraine. It involves using wax and dyes to color the egg.
- The term Easter gets its name from Eastre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess who symbolizes the hare and the egg.
- The exchange or giving of Easter eggs actually dates back to before Easter and the giving of eggs is actually considered a symbol of rebirth in many cultures.
- Americans consume more than 16 million jelly beans during this holiday. That is enough jelly beans to circle the globe not once, not twice, but three times.
- Peep peep! Did you know Americans buy more than 700 million marshmallow Peeps during Easter? This makes Peeps the most popular non-chocolate Easter candy.
- During the Easter holiday, more than 90 million chocolate bunnies, 91.4 billion eggs and 700 million Peeps are produced each year in the United States alone.
- Next to Halloween, Easter is the biggest candy consuming holiday of the year. Good thing they are almost six months apart, perfect for your yearly dentist check-ups!

*Happy Easter*



## *Parenting Pointer:*

Easter has come. Hurray! We can eat sweets again and let go of "giving up." But what has Lent taught you this year? Reflect together honestly about how this Lent (or harder times in general) have taught you a life lesson, perhaps how to love each other better, warts and all.

"by Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)"

## ECO-FRIENDLY TIPS AND TRICKS

while you're out and about

### CLUTTER

**EASY:** Decluttering tip: Not everything has to be stored in your house. (Think extra sheets, toys, canned goods...) That's what stores are for.

**CHALLENGING:** Walk through each room in your home. Notice what you use often vs. what are mentos or "just in case" items.

**MAKE 3 PILES:** Save, Donate and Discard. Do something with the discard pile!

For more recycling basics visit:

[www.susanvogt.net/blog/365194-recycling-basics/](http://www.susanvogt.net/blog/365194-recycling-basics/)



## *Marriage Moment:*

As we remember Jesus' sorrow and pain, parents also have days of regret and pain while raising a child. Forgive yourself. Forgive your child. A better day will come. Sorrow is a necessary part of growing up for both your child and yourself. Don't give up!

"by Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)"





# 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

**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).

**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)

## DIVORCE/SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP



*First Official Meeting*  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**  
9AM - PARISH LIFE CENTER

**April 23:** First Session (9am - 10:30am)  
*"Weathering the Storm of Fear and Anxiety"*

**May 7:** (9am - 10:30am)  
*"Dealing with Depression and Loneliness"*

Additional topics will be announced at a later date. We will meet every other week for 12 weeks. The final session will take place on October. You are welcome to attend at any time in whatever stage of separation/divorce you are in. Also come to any session any week.

For more information contact:  
**Carole Wheeler-Antle (239) 850-7443**  
email: [wacarole@comcast.net](mailto:wacarole@comcast.net)



**THURSDAY, APRIL 13 - 6PM**

St. John XXIII - Main Hall:

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

**Guest Speaker:**

**DENNIS SOLON**

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*Join the Women's Guild*

**SUNDAY, MAY 7**

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