



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

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

April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy SUNDAY

*The more you trust
in Me completely,
the **STRONGER**
is My mercy. The
more I can forgive,
My mercy is so
POWERFUL,
that it can wipe
out the sins of all
mankind.*

Jesus
I TRUST IN
You



April 7, 2024

Please Note:
SATURDAY
CONFESSIONS
takes place in the
church from
8:30am-9:30am
Livestreamed
9:15am MASS on
Facebook/Website

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Jayabalan (Jay) Raju
frjay@johnxxiii.net

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.

FORT MYERS:

St. Columbkille
239-489-3973

Health Park & Hope Hospice

St. Francis Xavier
239-334-2161

Lee Memorial Hospital

St. Vincent de Paul
239-693-0818

Select Hospital

LEHIGH ACRES:

St. Raphael
239-369-1831

Hope Hospice, Lehigh Hospital
and Health & Rehab Center

BONITA SPRINGS:

St. Leo the Great
239-992-0901

Hope Hospice

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 8 Annunciation of the Lord (Not a Holy Day)

- 8:00 AM † Timothy Shea by Gary & Debbie Vanderson

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

8:00 AM † Timothy Shea by Steven & Susan Jaburg

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

- 8:00 AM † Ralph Schaaque by Richard

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

- 8:00 AM † Richard Dirmyer by his family

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

- 8:00 AM † Lori Harrison by Jim & Peggy Schweitzer
- 4:00 PM † Maria Fioribello by her family
- 8:00 PM † Maria Nguyen - Vietnamese Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

- 7:15 AM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII
- 9:15 AM † Nick Kokotovich by Kelly Evers & family
- 11:15 AM † Donna Donatelli by Rick & Karen Crouse
- 1:30 PM † Amikar Torrealba by Armando & Tibi Torrealba

***** MASS INTENTION UPDATE *****

The Mass Book for 2024 is almost full. Please know we have another option of "Unannounced Masses." This means the particular intention under the Unannounced Masses will be given to a religious or retired priest of DOV to be celebrated at a time of their choosing. Please call the parish office for more details.

APRIL 14, 2024 - READINGS

- 1ST READING ACTS 3:13-15, 17-19
- PSALM PS 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9
- 2ND READING 1 JOHN 2:1-5A
- GOSPEL LUKE 24:35-48

Caroline Paveo
e-prayer

OUR E-PRAYER GROUP EMAIL ADDRESS:

eprayer.stjohn23@gmail.com

Pastoral Team

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holly@johnxxiii.net
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PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

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239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange
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239-561-2245

MESSAGE FROM

The St. John XXIII Administrator

Fr. Jay



Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.

The entrance antiphon (from 1 Peter 2:2) for this Sunday begins: "Like newborn infants you must long for the pure, spiritual milk that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia". Yes...pure and spiritual milk is given in a special way through forgiveness and grace through this Divine Mercy Sunday. In the gospel, Thomas longed for that spiritual milk like a newborn baby and raised a spontaneous question (let us not call it raising a doubt) and Jesus allowed him to put his hand on his side (where water (Baptism) and blood (Eucharist) came when the soldier pierced him with his lance). The result is total surrender with his words "My Lord and my God".

Being in Eucharistic revival at our parish and home level this year, let us surrender ourselves to Him by admiring him with the same words of Thomas when we stand before the Holy Eucharist. The Second reading also testifies with the words of John, "...This is the one who came through water and blood..."

I would like to thank every one of you for delivering a meaningful holy observation and celebration of Lenten events, Triduum and Holy Easter particularly our Staff team, Liturgical teams of Sacristans, Lectors, Ushers, Music ministry, Altar Servers, Communication team (website, Social Media and live-streaming), Art and Environment team, Religious Education teams for Children and Adults, OCIA, Deacons, Priests and you my beloved people! We joyfully weave our spiritual threads together even though it is not that easy! The risen Lord brings us blessings. Thank you!

Next weekend, I celebrate my 25 years Silver Jubilee of my ordination anniversary. Keep me in your prayers that I may continually be devoted to the Lord throughout my life and ministry. With out your prayers and encouragement, it would be hard to live as a priest in the present context. Some of my Priest friends will be concelebrating at the 11:15am Mass and families and friends from my former parishes and some families from Indian communities from around the area and Tampa will also be visiting our church for the occasion. I can't stop saying "My Lord and my God."

God Bless,
Fr. Jay Raju

- Reading 1: Acts 4:32-35
- Reading 11: 1 John 5:1-6
- Gospel: John 20:19-31

**PRAYER FOR
DIVINE MERCY**

April 7, 2024

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is love and mercy itself.

Amen



Jesus I TRUST IN *You*

Prayer List

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Marlene LaRose | Russ Aubrey |
| Gary Neubauer | MaryAnn Hemmer |
| Laura Ford | Girard Cugini |
| Scott Dugan | Edward Virtue |
| Braden O'Halloran | Ray & Janie Sucik |
| Infant Anthony Vardaan | Karen Racz |
| Steve Lane | Jill Louden |
| Kathleen Fontaine | Darlene Kepshire |
| Lucy DeRose | Crystal Heim |
| Cynthia & William | Mimi Weaver |
| Sandy Szymanski | Linda Anderson |
| Julia Reitz | Kristen Lipp |
| Marshall Conner | Dennis Ryan |
| Nancy Hall | Kevin Walsh |
| Leonard Hall | Janice Herrington |
| Barbi Cooper | Lucille Ouellette |
| Abby Newsome | Cora Davies |
| Collin Carnel | Marie Boutwell |

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 epriayer.stjohn23@gmail.com

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



Honoring Your Loved One

You can honor or remember your loved ones by donating the Tabernacle Candle or Eucharistic Host for \$15 for the week. Please inquire in the parish office.

Prayers for Eternal Life

*Life is changed, not ended.
Eternal rest grant unto them, Oh Lord!*

- Debra Gliottone**
Agnes Lund
Karen Schnall



Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Dorothy Adams**
Requested by: **Carol Warrell**



DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP:

myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for myparish. You can also text the word "APP" to 88202!





Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



Monday, April 8

- Men's Gospel Forum: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7am
- Craftie Ladies: Villas - 1pm
- KofC Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 5pm
- Youth Council Meeting: PLC/St. Joanna - 6pm
- Handbell Rehearsal: Church - 6:30pm
- Rooted: PLC/St. Therese - 7pm

Tuesday, April 9

- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Walking with Purpose: Main Hall - 10am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Bernadette & St. Michael - 1pm
- Bingo: Main Hall (Doors open 5:30pm/Games 6:30pm)
- CPR/1st Aid Class: PLC/Michael/Bernadette - 6pm
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 6:45pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

Wednesday, April 10

- Pastoral Staff Meeting: Office Conference Room - 10am
- Opening the Word: Zoom - 10am
- Faith Formation Session 1: PLC - 4:15pm
- Pizza Social: Main Hall - 5:30pm
- Faith Formation Session 2: PLC - 6:15pm
- MSYG Session: Main Hall - 6:15pm
- Blaze Bible Study: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7:30pm

Thursday, April 11

- Manor Care: - 10am
- Journey to Hope: PLC/St. Therese - 6pm
- Adult Choir Rehearsal: Church - 6:30pm
- Walking with Purpose: PLC/Martha/Mary - 7pm



Friday, April 12

- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Church - 8pm

Saturday, April 13

- **Fr. Jay 25th Jubilee Anniversary Celebration in the Parish Life Center after all Masses**
- First Communion Retreat: PLC - 9am-12pm
- KofC Food Drive: Parking Lot - 10am-1pm
- Vigil Mass: Church - 4pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 8pm

Sunday, April 14

- **Fr. Jay 25th Jubilee Anniversary Celebration in the Parish Life Center after all Masses**
- 7:15am, **NOTE: 9:15am* Livestreamed** & 11:15am
- Pre-School Bible Class: PLC/St. Susanna - 9:15am
- OCIA: PLC/Martha/Mary/Bernadette - 10:15am
- HSYG Session: PLC/St. Michael - 10:15am
- Spanish Mass: PLC - 1:30pm
- Praise & Worship: Adoration Chapel - 4pm



WELCOME

New Parishioners

- David & Martina Sholiton
- Leandro & Daniela Navarro
- Deacon John & Julie Foucault
- Brendan McCoy & Jeisel Gutierrez
- Michael and Celinda Joaquin

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, June 9, 2024 after the 11:15am Mass.**

Registering at St. John XXIII is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community. Please let the parish office know your email address or you can even update it on the parish website: www.johnxxiii.net

Frequently, those seeking to celebrate marriage, baptisms or serve as sponsors for confirmation or baptism, request a letter stating that they are parishioners. To receive such a letter, you must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly and be committed to stewardship of time, talent and treasure. One means of verifying participation is through the use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate or are unable to contribute at this time, please note your support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket.

PRAYERS FOR

Our Military Personnel

PFC Bryan Bard
Sean Ball
Major Bart Boma
Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove
Sgt. Phil Dellibovi
Sgt. Jared Gaudet
Capt. Kellyn C. Hall
Andrew Herman
Sgt. Kathleen Hudepohl
PFC Michael P Hughes
SPC Michael Jednak
PFC Andrew Kanopkh
Michael Klem
Major Bradley D. Laux
Capt. Jacob Mundo, US Army
SSGT Anthony Padula
Master SGT Peter Parison
Sgt. Justin Pingicer, Army
Lt. Col. Brady Sexton
Christian Troutner, US Navy
Alex Zizzo, US Navy Medic
PFC Jordan Feil, USA
Aaron Crump, USCG
Sgt. Nathaniel Broemmel
Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo
BG Scott C. Woodward
Andrew Hawkinson, USN
Cavalry Scout Specialist,
Ryan Silva, Army
2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC
Jared Broemmel, US Navy
2nd Lt. Edward Hudson
Tillinghast IV, Army
Jethro Ignacio, US Air Force

Eric Sanchez, US Air Force
Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army,
82nd ABN
Sgt. Eric Lyons, USMC
Lt. Nicholas Meunier, US Army
Robert Trenton Morell, Medic
Specialist US Army
Michael Thomas Morell, US Navy
SPC 4 Judy Martinez, US Army
1st Lt. Jeffrey Zivkovic, US Army
Christopher Dominski, PFC ARNG
2nd Lt. Sara Wulff
Sean Dryhurst US Navy
Lt. Amanda Macaluso
Anthony An Schroeder,
11 Bravo Infantry
Derrick Hambling, Army
Airborne Infantry
Maj. Paige Blevins USAF
Maj. Christopher Blevins USAF
Capt. Cameron Hortman USAF
PFC Alan Copeland
Augustus Gagis, Major, USAF
Zachary Gagis, Lieutenant, USN
Andrew Duffy, USSF
A1C Mark Greenwald, USAF
Col. Jeffrey Greenwald, USMC
Sarah Lambert, USAF
2nd Lt. Jarod Pankau
2nd Lt. Curi Pankau
Charles Robert Connolly, US Navy
PFC Abner Casiano, US Army
Ranger



Divine Mercy Sunday

APRIL 7: IN THE CHURCH 3:00PM

Join us for a very special celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday is the Sunday following Easter, on April 7. 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 1:00pm in the church.

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 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.

CONFESSIONS will be held prior to Mass from 1:00pm-2:45pm in the Church and Rosary Chapel.

DIVINE MERCY MASS will take place at 3:00pm in the Church.

25 years
Silver Jubilee

REV. JAYABALAN RAJU

Celebration

With gratitude to the Lord on the **25 Years - Silver Jubilee**
of Priestly Ordination of **Rev. Jayabalan Raju**



NEXT WEEKEND: **APRIL 13 AND APRIL 14**
in the PARISH LIFE CENTER *after all Masses*

"...I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain" - John 15:16a

Faith FORMATION

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

SAVE THE DATES

June 24 - June 28



This summer's vacation Bible School is sure to be "DEEP" as we "SCUBA - dive into Friendship with God!" Registration and more information to follow.



TOTUS TUUS: GRADES 1- 6
Week of July 15 - 19

(9:00am to 3:00pm)

PLEASE NOTE: at Our Lady of Light Parish

TOTUS TUUS: GRADES 7 - 12
July 15 - July 18

(6:30pm - 8:30pm)

PLEASE NOTE: at St. John XXIII Parish

SAVE THE DATES

Sacrament PREPARATION

If you would like more information on **BAPTISM**, **FIRST COMMUNION** or **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**, please visit the parish website sacraments tab: <https://johnxxxiii.net/sacrament-prep/>

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: For more information or to begin the process, please contact **Marie** in the parish office at **239-561-2245**

PRESCHOOL

BIBLE CLASS

PALM Sunday

Frannie Cerniglia, our director of Religious Education, shared some recent pictures of children in Preschool Bible Class.

Here are a few of our preschoolers painting on Palm Sunday with palms. Great job!





YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH Ministries

Coordinator of Youth Ministries 561-3022 xt 107
 Contact: Kelly Evers | kelly@johnxxiii.net

Rooted at St. John XXIII

We are reformatting the Rooted Ministry and looking for small group leaders. If you have a small group idea and would like to meet on the first Thursday of each month 7pm -8:30pm, please contact Kelly Evers.

Here are a few group ideas:

- **Rooted in College**
- **Rooted Special Needs**
- **Rooted 20 years of age to 30**
- **Rooted and Married**
(children welcome)
- **Rooted 30 years of age to 55**



Confirmation Program:

Our next sessions:

- **1st Year Study: April 28** - Power to Pray - In the Parish Life Center.
- **2nd Year Study: April 4** - Confirmation Rehearsal
April 5 - Confirmation Mass

High School Youth Group

All High School students and friends are welcome to attend our gatherings on select Sunday mornings in the Parish Life Center between the 9:15am & 11:15am Masses. (4/14, 5/12)

Middle School Youth Group

Visit our Parish website at johnxxiii.net under the Education tab to see dates and topics. High School Youth are welcome to attend to earn volunteer hours as mentors.

Youth Council

Mission statement: 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 St John XXIII Community.

Volunteer Opportunities

Scan this code with your mobile device photo app to be directed to the sign up genius webpage for opportunities to volunteer.



OCIA

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

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

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

For more information, please contact:
Leslie Robertson at (239) 560-5617

Welcome to Participate!

Reflection QUESTIONS

We would like to invite parishioners to share in the OCIA experience by making them aware of the Reflection Questions that the participants are discussing each week.

Below are some upcoming reflections:

4/7 - Conversion: Life-long Process

Where and how do you feel God calling you on your faith journey: At home/family, at work, in your parish, community?

4/14 - Role of the Laity

How is God calling you to get involved at St. John XXIII, using your unique skills and talents?

4/14 - Family Life

At what age did you know without a doubt that there was a God? Who helped you to discover that you are a child of God - and how can you be that person for someone else?

4/21 - Discernment

Describe a time when you 'felt' God tugging at your heart. How did you respond? Why?

4/21 - Spiritual Gifts

Have your needs, attachments or fears ever kept you from doing what you thought God was inviting you to do?

4/28 - Call to Holiness

Explain what 'holiness' means to you and describe your journey to grow in holiness.

4/28 - Living the Virtues

What are 'virtues'? Describe one virtue that is particularly important to you.





General Announcements

- **Like our Facebook Page:** For all the latest happenings, search "St. John XXIII Catholic Church" and "like" our page.
- **Our Weekly Newsletter:** Visit <https://www.johnxxiii.net/e-newsletter-sign-up/> and enter your email address.
- **St. John XXIII Flocknote:** Sign up for updates at StJohnXXIIICommunity.flocknote.com
- **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>
- **Free FORMED Account:** Discover all the best Catholic content in one place! Go to formed.org and click on "register". Create your FREE account by entering our parish code and your email address. Our Parish Code is 1823ee
- **Low Gluten Hosts:** If you are interested in receiving low gluten hosts at Mass, please see a Sacristan to make a request.
- **St. Luke Adoration Chapel:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:45pm and Saturday 8:30am-3:30pm. **Fridays in Lent, the chapel is open 8:30am-5:45pm.** For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry please visit: johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/ or email: stjohnxxiiiadorationchapel@gmail.com
- **Divorce/Separation Support Group:** For more information contact Carole Wheeler-Antle (239) 850-7443 or email: cdwantle819@gmail.com
- **Human Trafficking Info:** Human Trafficking can happen to anyone, but some people are more vulnerable than others. If you believe human trafficking may be occurring, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-888-373-7888** or text HELP or INFO to **BeFREE (233733)**
- **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.
- **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

2024

APRIL: FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

Sign up for monthly prayers and intentions:
www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/



ST. JOHN XXIII

THRIFT store

Selling quality goods
for the good of others.

APRIL

30% OFF Medical Equipment, Medical items, Medical Supplies

20% OFF Rackets/Racquets, Hair Dryers, Curling Irons

PLEASE NOTE:

Specials cannot be combined with other sales, specials, offers or items marked with FIRM pricing.

Store Hours: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM - 5PM
SATURDAY - 10AM - 4PM

Address: 15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110, Ft. Myers, FL

Website: www.bpjthrift.com



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



	03-31-24	04-02-23	Difference
Offertory	\$88,687.93	\$55,031.15	\$33,656.78
Building Fund	\$2,511.50	\$1,424.00	\$1,087.50
Total	\$91,199.43	\$56,455.15	\$34,744.28
Mass Attendance	8319	5003	
Registered Families	3569	3691	

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

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

2024 Catholic Faith Appeal

2024 Goal	\$492,000.00
Pledge	\$254,745.58
Payments	\$173,154.07

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

YOU Can ELIMINATE Capital Gains Tax by DONATING Stock!



St. John XXIII Catholic Church is a qualified charity eligible to receive donations of stock. When appreciated stock (or another asset) that you have held for more than a year is transferred directly to charity — there is no capital gains tax due on the sale!

Gifts of stock are processed through the Diocese of Venice at no cost to the parish and can be restricted for offertory, debt reduction, capital projects, CFA, or building our parish endowment.

To make a stock gift, contact **Holly Atkins** in our Parish office at **(239) 561-2245**



Out & About



Our Church Community

We would like to thank everyone who volunteered and participated in the Annual Easter Hunt on Saturday, March 23. A special thank you to those who donated candy/eggs for the event. It was a beautiful day to spend with family and friends!





TUESDAY, APRIL 9
PARISH LIFE CENTER

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

- 1 book of game cards is \$20
- 2 books of game cards is \$35
- Daubers cost \$1
- Each game pack includes 18 chances to win!
- Food and snacks available for purchase.

MUST BE 21 TO PLAY

All proceeds will go to a charity in our community.

JOURNEY TO

hope

Join our **NEXT MEETING!**

Thursday, April 11 • 6pm
PARISH LIFE CENTER

St. Therese Classroom

This family support group for mental health challenges meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6pm in the Parish Life Center in room, St. Therese. The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, April 11.**

Help is available by phone for those in crisis. For local response, call Mobile Crisis Response Team at **844-395-4432** or National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at **988**

A NOTE FROM A
Grandmother
PASSING ON THE
Faith



A wise Grandmother from our parish is passing on the faith to her 4 grandchildren in this wonderful way and we wanted to share it with you. She has a 12 year old, 11, 9 and 8 year old and she takes them to the store and they are told they each have \$50.00 to spend on food to give to those in need. She talks to them about giving back and our need to help others. Then it turns into a math lesson as the one that gets their purchase closest to \$50.00 gets a reward. She tells one to pick out breakfast foods, another soup and vegetables, another, international foods, and the other pasta, rice and sauce. She teaches them about buy one and get one free and how to use coupons. Then she brings them to the church to add to our baskets which are distributed to local food banks.

This is a wonderful way to have fun with her grandchildren while teaching them the joy of giving and to become Christ to others.

“She opens her mouth with wisdom and teaching of kindness is on her tongue.”

- Proverbs 31:26

RESPECT
LIFE



40 DAYS
FOR LIFE™

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Spring 40 Days for Life campaign and especially to **Maureen Nash** for her tireless dedication and passionate prayers for the unborn, abortion workers and all of those involved in the scourge of abortion!

CONTACT US:

If you would like more information, or interested in volunteering, email: respectlifejohn23@gmail.com

**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



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**SATURDAY, APRIL 13
10AM-1PM**



PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

**PRAISE &
WORSHIP**

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 - 4:00PM
St. Luke Adoration Chapel

Come join our Praise & Worship Ministry in the St. Luke Adoration Chapel on **Sunday, April 14** at **4:00pm**, and sing a joyful song to the Lord in the presence of Jesus.

ALL ARE WELCOME: No choir experience necessary, just a loving prayerful heart.

For more information, contact:

Gaby Frei at gabriela@gabrielafrei.com

We look forward to seeing you and praising the Lord together! Use this QR code to access the music.





Come and join us in fellowship on **Thursday, April 18** at St. John XXIII Parish Life Center. Our speaker will be Mark Middendorf, President of Ave Maria University and Founder of Lighthouse Catholic Media (LCM). He merged LCM with the Augustine Institute in 2015 and worked for the Institute as Executive Vice President for Mission Expansion. There, he launched and expanded the Formed platform. In 2022, he was selected to be the fourth president of Ave Maria University.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 - 6:00PM
ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH LIFE CENTER

Guest Speaker:
MARK MIDDENDORF
"The Importance of Catholic Higher Education"

\$10 DONATION
 (Pizza/Refreshments Provided)

Please register online:
www.faithandale.com



NO CHARGE!
FRIDAY, APRIL 26
6PM TO 8:30PM
PARISH LIFE CENTER

This series is part of our parish's Adult Faith Formation ministry. We will be showing movies in our Parish Life Center, followed by a discussion of the film. It is an opportunity to meet other parishioners and have a faith-filled discussion on an important topic.

Our next presentation is *How Green Was My Valley*. This film tells the story of the Morgans, a hard-working Welsh mining family, related from the point of view of their youngest son. It won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1941.

PLEASE RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 so we know how much food to prepare.

Pizza provided by:
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RSVP via email to:
deaconrich@johnxxiii.net



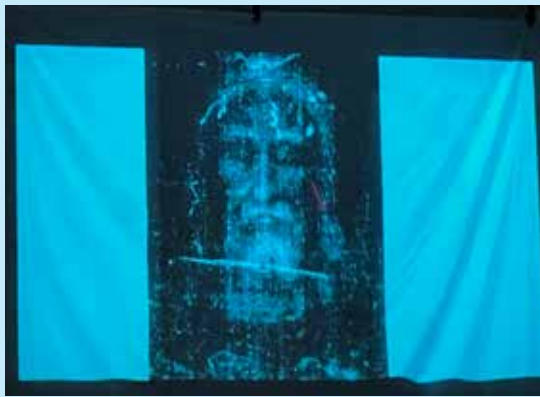


Shroud OF Turin

PRESENTATION with
Dr. Gilbert R. Lavoie

THANK YOU

We would like to thank **Dr. Gilbert R. Lavoie** for the inspiring presentation on the Shroud of Turin on Wednesday, March 27. It was wonderful to witness how many people were engaged in the chapel during Holy Week. This story of the life of Jesus came alive through relatable, real-world scientific witnesses!



Shroud OF Turin

PRESENTATION with
parishioner, Dave Emmith

THANK YOU



A special thank you to parishioner, **Dave Emmith**, for giving a presentation of the Shroud of Turin on Good Friday in the Chapel after morning Mass.

Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

Decline to Sign Petition: Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to have a pro-abortion constitutional amendment placed on the statewide ballot in the November 2024 election. To do so, they need nearly 900,000 signatures. Floridian Catholics should not sign the petition as we approach the November elections.

Join a Prayer Group: "Who is Jesus to you? A picture or a statue? Is He flesh and blood to you? We are a group of women who gather to meditate on the Gospels, to develop a personal relationship with the Living Word Himself. To share our experience of the Word, apply it concretely to our daily lives, and provide spiritual support to one another. In short, to "know" Jesus intimately through prayer according to Catholic Tradition and the Doctors of the Church. "Come taste and see the goodness of the Lord." Interested? Gospel Encounter meets twice monthly in the afternoons on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Contact **Peggy Kepple (734) 223-8151** or email peggykepple@yahoo.com for more information.

Southwest Florida Concert Band: Join us for Sunday concerts at South Fort Myers High School, 14020 Plantation Rd. Ft. Myers. The April 14 concert is "Traveling the World with Music". All concerts start at 2pm and are FREE with donations accepted. For more information: southwestfloridaconcertband.org

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

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

Healing after Abortion: For more information or questions, contact Sylvia Jimenez by email or on the Project Rachel Helpline at **(941) 412-5860**

Good Counsel Camp: Summer adventures await at Our Lady of Good Counsel Camp in Floral City, FL. This is a co-ed overnight camp which is owned and operated by the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg. All Children 7-15 years of age are invited to attend. One and two week sessions are currently offered at affordable prices. All information is available on the camp website at www.goodcounselcamp.org or by emailing the camp director at: info@goodcounselcamp.org

Ave Maria University Conference: Join our 13th Annual Maria Eucharistic Conference, May 10-12 at Ave Maria University. With speakers and special breakout sessions will be offered in Spanish. For more information, visit: aveconferences.com or email: aveconferences@gmail.com

TEC Retreat: "To Encounter Christ", a Catholic Retreat for Young Adults. Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday, May 25 to Monday, May 27. Location: Cursillos de Cristiandad, 16250 SW 112 Ave. Miami, FL. For more information and sign up, visit www.SonshineTEC.com

Don't Get HOOKED

Did You Know?

4 in 5 emails are
phishing or spam
emails!

What Can I Do?

Look for parish, school or diocese domain email addresses.

Be suspicious of: @yahoo.com, @gmail.com, @aol.com, @comcast.net, etc. or posing as someone from the parish.

When in doubt, call the parish office or contact the Diocesan IT Department.

If your gut says the message is strange, call the sender before clicking a link or opening a file. Don't wire money or buy gift cards if asked in an email, text message, or social media post.

The IT Helpdesk will never email a link telling you to click or a message: "your account will be disabled".

Report suspicious emails to:
ithelpdesk@dioceseofvenice.org

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