



# 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)

**June 30, 2024**

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# IN GOD WE TRUST

*Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord*

- Psalm 33:12



**June 30, 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. Simon Dao CRM**  
frsimon@johnxxiii.net  
**Fr. Greg Dougherty**  
frgreg@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, JULY 1

- 8:00 AM † Donald Cleary by Rose Marchiel

### TUESDAY, JULY 2

- 8:00 AM † June Rampinelli by Lori Cullen

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

- 8:00 AM † James Verdi by Daisy McTeague

### THURSDAY, JULY 4

- 8:00 AM † Jean C. Sharkey by Michael Filipowski

### FRIDAY, JULY 5

- 8:00 AM † James & Phyllis Benham by their daughters

### SATURDAY, JULY 6

- 8:00 AM † Dorothy Adams by Chuck & Helen Martek
- 4:00 PM † Timothy Shea by Kathleen Shea
- 8:00 PM † All Souls - Vietnamese Mass

### SUNDAY, JULY 7

- 7:15 AM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII
- 9:15 AM † Joe Sullivan by the Reitz family
- 11:15 AM † Dale & Gene Perkins by Donald Perkins
- 1:30 PM ♥ Thanksgiving for Holy Spirit by Yonela Sarmento

### \*\*\* MASS INTENTION UPDATE \*\*\*

The 2025 Mass Intentions Book **WILL BE OPEN ON JULY 1** in the Parish Office. Availability includes four intentions (two weekend Masses and two weekday) per calendar year, per registered parishioner.

### JULY 7, 2024 - READINGS

- 1ST READING EZ 2:2-5
- PSALM PS 123:1-2, 2, 3-4
- 2ND READING 2 COR 12:7-10
- GOSPEL MK 6:1-6

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

### THURSDAY, JULY 4

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

St. Luke Adoration Chapel will be open  
8:30am to Noon to honor our country.

### Pastoral Team

#### Business Manager

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

#### Facilities Director

**Jason Goss**  
239-561-2245

#### Maintenance

**Mark Bellis**  
239-561-2245

#### Dir. of Religious Education

**Frannie Cerniglia**  
franniedre@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-7499

#### Faith Formation Assistant

**Paula Froio**  
paula@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-7499

#### Bookkeeper

**Ana Thompson**  
ana@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Receptionist

**Martha Lovley**  
martha@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Admin. Assistant

**Eda Medica**  
eda@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Admin. Assistant

**Marie Boutwell**  
marieb@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Bulletin Editor

**Colleen Leavy**  
bulletineditor@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Liturgy Coordinator

**Bethany Myers**  
bethany@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Music Director

**John Renfroe**  
musicdirector@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Youth Ministry

**Kelly Evers**  
kelly@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-3022

#### Thrift Store Manager

**Clayton Goodridge**  
thrifft@johnxxiii.net  
239-433-4097  
15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110  
Ft. Myers, FL 33908

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

#### PLC Coordinator

**Ivette Janoschka**  
ivette@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

#### Admin. Assistant

**Barbara Lange**  
blange@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-2245

MESSAGE FROM

The St. John XXIII Administrator

Fr. Jay



Dear Friends,

This weekend, the readings tell us that God is a 'God of life' and not of death (Reading 1 and the Gospel.) He provides life through humility and equality (Reading 2). In the Gospel, we have an interesting report of two stories that happened, one with a 12-year-old girl and another with a woman who had been suffering hemorrhages for 12 years.

These girls had many afflictions. 1.) Being a girl/woman; 2.) Being sick girls; and 3.) Women with flow of blood. As per the law, they are considered impure subjects. When they publicly touch others, they could very well be stoned to death as punishment for polluting others. But Jesus gives graceful, gentle, and kind words of healing and touches them. With His healing words and touch, He not only healed the girls but also the crowds with the truth that He is the God of life. Let us remember Jesus' kind words, "Talitha Koum". There are so many in the world today who are being discriminated against or abused for being girls, children or older in age. For anyone in vulnerable situations, let us bring the words of Jesus, "Talitha Koum."

As we celebrate Independence Day, our nation's most patriotic holiday, on July 4th, let us remember to remind the people of our country that our God is a God of life. Leading to a culture of death is not American and excludes the right of freedom, as well.

This past week, we were thrilled having the children attend VBS (Vacation Bible School. ) They certainly had a lot of fun! Thank you for sending your children and supporting their journey. The Religious Education Team and Youth Ministry provided many creative efforts, and we thank them!

Fr. Simon Dao, our Parochial Vicar will be going back to his religious congregation on July 12th after serving the last 4 years at St. John XXIII. Soon, another Vietnamese priest from his congregation will be appointed by our Bishop. Therefore, next weekend, July 6th and 7th after each Mass, there will be a small reception planned for him in the Parish Life Center. Please grace him with your blessings and gratitude for his service to our community.

Happy Independence Day and God Bless America!

Fr. Jay Raju

• Reading 1: Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24

• Reading 11: 2 Corinthians 8:7,9, 13-15

• Gospel: Mark 5:21-43



# INDEPENDENCE

## PRAYER

July 4th, 2024

*God of justice and truth, we ask your blessing on our nation.*

*Thank you for the freedoms we enjoy, especially those we take for granted.*

*Thank you for the diversity of our people and enlarge our capacity for tolerance and mutual respect.*

*As we celebrate our independence as a sovereign nation, may we also celebrate our independence.*

*Make us mindful of the blessings of our rich and abundant land.*

*May your gracious Spirit inspire us to work together to meet the challenges of our times.*

*With all hope, faith, and trust in you, we pray. Amen.*

## Prayer List

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

Marlene LaRose  
Gary Neubauer  
Laura Ford  
Braden O'Halloran  
Steve Lane  
Lucy DeRose  
Bill Becker  
Cynthia & William  
David Hilson  
Sandy Szymanski  
Russ Aubrey  
MaryAnn Hemmer  
Girard Cugini  
Edward Virtue  
Ray & Janie Sucik  
Karen Racz  
Jill Loudon  
Darlene Kepshire

Crystal Heim  
Mimi Weaver  
Linda Anderson  
Kristen Lipp  
Denis Ryan  
Kevin Walsh  
Janice Herrington  
Cora Davies  
Marie Boutwell  
Louis Cooper, Jr.  
Bill Acini  
Kathleen Atkins  
Leyla A. Bolivar  
Kate Maloney  
Kathy Privhinello  
Steven Kapish  
Denise Staerker  
Carolyn Nieset

**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](mailto:epriayer.stjohn23@gmail.com)



## 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!  
**Christine Mangano**



## Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Wayne Maloney**  
Requested by: **Craig & Sue Edwards**



## Memorial Flowers

In Memory of: **Christine Saliga Sullivan**  
Requested by: **Mike Sullivan**





## Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



### Monday, July 1

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

### Tuesday, July 2

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

### Wednesday, July 3

- Living in the Father's Love Virtual Bible Study: ZOOM Only - 9am
- Pastoral Staff Meeting: Office Conference Room - 10am

### Thursday, July 4 - Independence Day

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 12Noon
- Hispanic Music Rehearsal: PLC/St. Elizabeth - 7pm

### Friday, July 5

- First Friday Adoration - 8:30am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 8pm
- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Church - 8pm

### Saturday, July 6

- Benediction/Adoration/Confession after 8am Mass
- Vigil Mass: Church - 4pm
- Fr. Simon Farewell Reception: PLC after Masses
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 8pm

### Sunday, July 7

- Fr. Simon Farewell Reception: PLC after Masses
- 7:15am, **NOTE: 9:15am\* Livestreamed** & 11:15am
- Bloodmobile: Parking Lot - 8am-1pm
- Pre-School Bible Class: PLC/St. Susanna - 9:15am
- Summer Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 10:30am
- Hispanic Choir: PLC/St. Elizabeth - 11am
- Spanish Rosary: Church - 12:50pm
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm



### 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*

- Oscar Manosalva Cuervo
- John & Rene Moloney
- Adrian & Jennifer Fugiel
- Travis & Vicki Hunter

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, September 22, 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](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  
 Sean Ball  
 Major Bart Boma  
 Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove  
 Sgt. Phil Dellibovi  
 M/Sgt Jarod 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 Broemmell  
 Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo  
 BG Scott C. Woodward  
 Andrew Hawkinson, USN  
 Cavalry Scout Specialist,  
 Ryan Silva, Army  
 2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC  
 Jared Broemmell, 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  
 1st Lt. Jarod Pankau USAF  
 1st Lt. Curi Pankau USAF  
 Charles Robert Connolly, US Navy  
 PFC Abner Casiano, US Army  
 Ranger  
 Ensign Aaron Humphrey

# FIRST FRIDAY

## Adoration

**JULY 5**

**ADORATION CHAPEL**  
open: 8:30am - 8:00pm

**PLEASE NOTE:** Chapel Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:45pm and Saturday 8:30am-3:30pm. Every first Friday has extended hours 8:30am-8pm

*For more information:*

EMAIL:

[stjohnxxiiiadorationchapel@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnxxiiiadorationchapel@gmail.com)

WEBSITE:

[johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/](http://johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/)



**BENEDICTION**  
**ADORATION**  
**CONFESSIONS**

**Saturday, July 6**

**Saturday, July 6**, we offer the monthly First Saturday benediction followed by adoration after the 8:00am Mass until 10:00am. Confessions will still be available.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Adoration Chapel will not be open until 10:00am on the 1st Saturday. We invite people into the church for adoration.

## Farewell from FR. SIMON



My Dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

From the grace of God and after four enriching years serving as Parochial Vicar at St. John Catholic Church, the time has come for me to move on to a new chapter in my ministry. While part of me feels a pang of sadness leaving this vibrant community, a larger part overflows with gratitude for the countless blessings from God that we have shared together.

These past four years have been a tapestry woven with moments of profound joy: celebrating baptisms, witnessing marriages, and offering solace during times of loss. Each interaction, each conversation, has deepened my faith and enriched my understanding of what it means to be part of a loving St. John XXIII family.

From the tireless volunteers who ensure the smooth running of our Church to the families who faithfully fill our pews, I am deeply grateful for your unwavering support. You have opened your hearts and homes to me, making St. John XXIII Parish truly feel like a second home.

While I may be departing, the bonds we have forged will remain strong. I will forever cherish the memories we've created and hold you all close in my prayers. May God continue to bless you and St. John XXIII Church with abundance of grace and love.

*With heartfelt appreciation,*  
Fr. Simon Dao, CRM



*Farewell* **RECEPTION**  
*for* **FATHER SIMON**



**NEXT WEEKEND** *July 6-7*

On behalf of Fr. Jay and the parish staff, we want to thank Fr. Simon for his dedicated service to our community over the last 4 years.

We will have a hospitality reception after Masses in the Parish Life Center **next weekend: July 6-7**, so we can give him a proper goodbye. You are welcome to send your blessings and cards that weekend or at the parish office, 13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912.



## 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](http://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](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**
- **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. Every first Friday, the chapel is open 8:30am-8:00pm. For information on The Adoration Chapel Ministry please visit: [johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/](http://johnxxiii.net/adoration-chapel-ministry/) or email: [stjohnxxiiiadorationchapel@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnxxiiiadorationchapel@gmail.com)
- **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)
- **Yarn/Fabric Needed:** The Craftie Ladies are in need of more yarn to make projects. You may drop off the donations in the church Narthex.
- **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.

## DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP:

[myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) or search your phone's app store for myparish. You can also text the word “APP” to 88202!



STAY CONNECTED and get UPDATES!

Scan the QR code or sign up at:

[StJohnXXIIICommunity.flocknote.com](http://StJohnXXIIICommunity.flocknote.com)



SCAN ME

# MONTHLY *Blessings*

**NEXT WEEKEND,  
JULY 6-7, as we offer the  
MONTHLY BLESSINGS  
for all  
ANNIVERSARIES  
and BIRTHDAYS.**

The blessing after the homily will be dedicated to anyone celebrating an anniversary that month. Parishioners can just stand in place.

Birthday blessings will take place after Mass once a month.





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

### Rooted at St. John XXIII

Please visit our Rooted Facebook page for exciting information starting this summer. Email Kelly for updates: [kelly@johnxxiii.net](mailto:kelly@johnxxiii.net)

- **JULY 3 - St. Michael 7:00pm**  
**Rooted 18-22**
- **JULY 3 - Parish Life Center 7:00pm**  
**Rooted 23-29**
- **COMING SOON**  
**Rooted and Married**  
*(children welcome)*



### Confirmation Program:

Classes have ended for the 2023-24 season. Registration will begin July 1 on the Parish website. Both first year and second year candidates must register and commit to all scheduled dates.

### High School Socials

Sunday morning Gospel Sessions have ended for the 23-24 season. New dates will be published July 1. Visit our summer offerings page for ways to encounter Christ over the summer

### Middle School Youth Group

Sessions have ended for the 2023-24 season. Registration will begin July 1 on our parish website. Visit our summer offerings page for ways to encounter Christ over the summer.

### 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.



## *Save a Life Sunday*

### **DONATE BLOOD**

The Lee Health Bloodmobile

**SUNDAY, JULY 7**

**8am-1pm**

St. John XXIII Parking Lot

*All donors will receive a limited edition beach towel and wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.*



## *Join Us!*

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

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

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



### *For more Information:*

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

**Bethany Myers, Liturgy Coordinator**  
email: [bethany@johnxxiii.net](mailto:bethany@johnxxiii.net)



# Women's Guild

## UPDATE

### Thank You!

The Women's Guild is grateful for the leadership and fellowship of our outgoing President Sue Edwards and Treasurer Joann Bernstein for their 8 years of service on the board. **Thank you Sue and Joann!**

**The Guild welcomes new board members:**

**Linda Heinz** - President, **Pat Barone** - Treasurer

**Stefanie Puccetti** - Secretary (Nov. to April)

**They will be joining existing Board members:**

**Joanne Walsh** - Vice President & **Cleo Hesselbach** - Secretary (May to Oct.)



**Sue Edwards with Cleo Hesselbach**



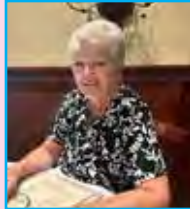
Linda Heinz



Pat Barone



Stefanie Puccetti



Joann Bernstein



Joanne Walsh



Sue Edwards



Cleo Hesselbach



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

## Interested in becoming Catholic or receiving any of the Sacraments?

OCIA is the program designed to provide a solid formation for anyone considering becoming Catholic. If you or someone you know is discerning how they can become more fully part of the Church, please complete the form below and place it in the collection basket. Alternatively, please call the parish office at: **239-561-2245, option 3.**

*I would like to learn more about the process of becoming Catholic or receiving my sacraments. Please have someone contact me to explain the program in more detail. - Thank You*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL or HOME PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_





## Weekly Financials



	06-23-24	06-25-23	Difference
Offertory	\$22,026.16	\$25,009.19	(\$2,983.03)
Building Fund	\$920.00	\$1,548.50	(\$628.50)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,946.16</b>	<b>\$26,557.69</b>	<b>(\$3,611.53)</b>
Mass Attendance	2244	2253	
Registered Families	3591	3702	

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	\$390,216.67
Payments	<b>\$310,550.60</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/>

# PARISH LIFE CENTER GUIDELINES

Treat Our PLC with TLC

## REGISTRATION:

- Submit a registration form and have it approved by authorized staff to reserve a requested space and be added to the parish calendar.

## SAFETY:

- Take care of yourself and be respectful of others. Document and report all accidents or injuries to a parish staff member.
- At least one authorized, trained kitchen user must be present. You must be at least 15 years old to be in the kitchen, unless special permission has been granted by authorized staff.
- All spills or trip hazards are to be contained and corrected. Report maintenance or repair needs.
- The stages are reserved for speakers, performers, and authorized personnel. Always keep children safe and off the stage.

## CLASSROOMS:

- When having a meeting in one of the flex rooms, please DO NOT move any of the panels/walls. Those are to be moved by trained staff for security purposes. If you need a smaller room than what is provided please advise when requesting the room for your meeting. Also if any tables or chairs are moved please return everything back to where it goes.
- Classrooms are food-free zones. No food or drinks are allowed in the five stand-alone classrooms.

## UPKEEP:

- Keep walls, windows, and doors free of decorations. Free-standing banners, easels, and portable walls are available for approved requests.
- Table decorations are allowed, including weighted balloons. All decorations must be removed during event clean-up.
- Only floor cord protectors, not tape, are to be used for extension cords.
- Refrain from placing feet on walls.

## CLEAN UP:

- Return the PLC to pristine condition after your event. All trash must be removed.
- Tables/chairs must be returned to original placement.
- Do not leave extra items without staff approval.

## TECHNOLOGY:

- Air conditioning and heating will be controlled only by authorized staff.
- Audio/visual equipment is to be operated by authorized and properly trained personnel.



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**PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES**



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Disney  
**Cinderella**



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NIGHT FOR  
CHILDREN AND  
PARENTS!

- *Bring Your Children!*
- *Enjoy a Movie and Food!*
- *Meet Other Parents!*

**NO CHARGE!**

Please sign up by **Tuesday, July 9** so we know how much food and refreshments to prepare:  
[deaconrich@johnxxiii.net](mailto:deaconrich@johnxxiii.net)

**Pizza provided by:**  
The Knights of Columbus

IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

**FRIDAY, JULY 12 - 6PM TO 7:30PM**



# 4<sup>th</sup> of July FUN FACTS

- Only John Hancock actually signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. All the others signed later.
- The White House held its first 4th of July party in 1801.
- Congress made Independence Day an official unpaid holiday for federal employees in 1870. In 1938, Congress changed Independence Day to a paid federal holiday.
- The stars on the original American flag were in a circle so all the Colonies would appear equal.
- Benjamin Franklin proposed the turkey as the national bird but was overruled by John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who recommended the bald eagle.
- Every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped (not actually rung) 13 times in honor of the original 13 colonies.
- Approximately 150 million hot dogs and 700 million pounds of chicken are consumed on this day.
- In 2012, vast majority of imported U.S. flags (\$3.6 million) were made in China.
- Fireworks are a tradition of celebrating our national holiday. The U.S. imported \$227.3 million worth of fireworks from China in 2012. U.S. exports of fireworks, by comparison, came to just \$11.7 million in 2012, with Israel purchasing more than any other country (\$2.5 million)
- In 1776, there were 2.5 million people living in the new nation. Today the population of the U.S.A. is 316 million

## Parenting Pointer:

Identify some things that clutter your home. Now, what do you do with it? Give it away of course. Let your kids help you find people who need your extras. Here are some ideas:

[www.susanvogt.net/blog/365193-donating-basics/](http://www.susanvogt.net/blog/365193-donating-basics/)

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

## ECO-FRIENDLY TIPS AND TRICKS

while you're out and about

### PLASTIC FREE JULY

Learn about this global movement that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution, so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Be part of Plastic Free July by choosing to refuse single-use plastics: [www.plasticfreejuly.org](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org)

**TAKE THE CHALLENGE:** Our weekly emails during July help to keep you motivated! Enjoy stories from our participants and other news from our global movement. Together we can make a difference and be a part of the solution.

[www.plasticfreejuly.org/take-the-challenge/](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org/take-the-challenge/)



## Marriage Moment:

What does Independence Day look like in marriage? Does it mean being free to do whatever you want? Of course not. Perhaps it's closer to being "interdependent", knowing your strengths and weaknesses and helping each other out.

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





# *Celebrating* INDEPENDENCE *Day*

## AS A CHRISTIAN

by: **Nick Rabiipour - The Catholic Company**

July 4th is the national celebration of our Nation's independence. As we celebrate let us remember to pray that God will strengthen and bless America and make our nation a haven of liberty and justice for all - born and unborn.

How are we as Catholic Christians and Americans supposed to celebrate this great day? John Adams, one of the Founding Fathers of our country, wrote this about how to celebrate the fourth of July:

***"It ought to be commemorated as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with parades, picnics food, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and fireworks from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward forever more."***

Well, let's see how we're doing in celebrating the fourth of July the way one of the greatest Founders envisioned. Parades? Check. Picnic? Check. Sports? Backyard games count, right? Check. Bonfires? Check. Fireworks? Double check. Solemn Acts of Devotions to God Almighty? Um . . . I don't know about you, but I don't typically live up to that calling on the Fourth of July.

But, John Adams set an example for us. After everything's said and done, we owe God more than anyone else for what occurred 242 years ago. In fact, the most famous part of the Declaration of Independence explicitly points to God as the source of our freedom:

***"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."***

There are many ways to honor God on this special day. Perhaps you can read a passage from the Catholic Bible with your family to kick off the festivities, or pray a family rosary with the special intention for our political leaders and our country's future.

Not our parents, or politicians, or government, are the source of our most important rights. Only God. As the source of our rights, He deserves the highest praise, honor, and glory on Independence Day and every day.



WISHING YOU A BLESSED  
*Independence Day*

***"Now the Lord is the Spirit, where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."***

## Catholic Community HAPPENINGS

**Prayer for Safety During Hurricane Season:** Hurricane Season continues until November 30. All are encouraged to pray for protection from the storms that can and have threatened Southwest Florida. The devastation, as witnessed by Hurricane Ian, reinforces the fact that we need to pray for God's protection and care during these next months.

**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](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife) for the monthly schedule of Novena of Masses for Life.

**4KIDS Brings Hope:** The 4KIDS model and paradigm extends Hope, Homes, and Healing to children and families across 13 Florida counties. Hope is experienced through preventative based care. Homes are open to children in foster care. And Healing is made possible for children and families who have experienced trauma with the help of training and therapeutic care. Here is how 4KIDS brings Hope, Homes, and Healing to those in need. For more information, please call **(239) 266-8354** or visit <https://www.4kids.us/4kidsswfl>

**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/>

**Food Pantry Volunteers Needed:** Catholic Charities is in need of volunteers for our Food Pantry, located at 4235 Michigan Link Avenue in Ft. Myers. Help is needed Wednesday 8:30am-11am and/or Thursday 8:30am - 12pm noon. On Wednesdays we bag the food and receive the delivery. Thursdays is the actual distribution with bagging also occurring. If you would like to help, please contact **Mike Vega** [mike.vega@catholiccharitiesdov.org](mailto:mike.vega@catholiccharitiesdov.org) or call **(239)270-3291**

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

**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](mailto:peggykepple@yahoo.com) for more information.

**988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline:** Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7 service for those in emotional distress. Veteran services are also available. **Simply call 988**



**CALLING  
ALL MEDICAL  
PROFESSIONALS!**

## Amendment 4 FREE Training Opportunity SATURDAY, JULY 12 9:00 am - 3:00pm

We're excited to invite you to join the Florida Physicians Against Amendment 4 for an expert communications training, described by one of your fellow doctors as **"the best training I have attended since graduating residency."** This is an invaluable opportunity that is **FREE OF COST** and the session takes place in Miami, Florida on **Saturday, July 27 from 9am-3pm**.

Hundreds of doctors have found the training beneficial to all areas of their practice, and in addition to specifically preparing them for media appearances with reporters across the political spectrum as well as for conversations with colleagues and friends.

Florida doctors and medical professionals of all types (including med students) are welcome at this day-long expert training. Come and learn the specifics of Amendment 4, which could allow for abortions up to birth and do away with basic health and safety standards for abortionists. The training will equip you to respond to tough questions and speak with the press to raise concerns about how this measure could affect your patients and your ability to provide them with excellent healthcare. We hope you can join us.

## Sign up **NOW**

[https://aaplog.wildapricot.org/  
event-576300](https://aaplog.wildapricot.org/event-576300)





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## FLORIDA BISHOPS OPPOSE Extreme Abortion Amendment *Vote No on Amendment 4*



Florida Amendment 4, which will appear on Florida's November 2024 ballot, is an extreme proposal that legalizes fullterm abortion with no protections for the preborn child, including when the child is capable of feeling pain. This proposed amendment to our state constitution would prohibit all restrictions on abortion before viability and create a broad exception that any healthcare provider could exploit to allow abortion up to birth.

Furthermore, the amendment would effectively overturn or seriously jeopardize common-sense state laws that have regulated abortion for years. These include basic health and safety requirements for clinics where abortions are performed, requiring a physician to perform abortions, informed consent requirements, laws limiting public funding of abortion, and parental consent requirements before a minor's abortion.\* These risks demonstrate the extreme nature of the amendment.

We urge all Floridians of goodwill to stand against the legalization of late-term abortion and oppose the abortion amendment. In doing so, we will not only protect the weakest, most innocent, and defenseless of human life among us but also countless women throughout the state from the harms of abortion.

Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision of society. Direct attacks on innocent persons are never morally acceptable, at any stage or in any condition. In our state, human life is repeatedly being destroyed by abortion. Over 84,000 vulnerable and voiceless children were aborted in Florida in 2023.

This matter concerning the respect for human dignity and the fundamental value of human life is of grave importance to both our Church and our state. The threat of abortion remains our pre-eminent public policy priority. Therefore, we support a coordinated campaign to mobilize against the proposed amendment.

**Most Rev. Thomas G. Wenski**  
Archdiocese of Miami

**Most Rev. Gerald M. Barbarito**  
Diocese of Palm Beach

**Most Rev. Gregory L. Parkes**  
Diocese of St. Petersburg

**Most Rev. William A. Wack, CSC**  
Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

**Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane**  
Diocese of Venice

**Most Rev. John G. Noonan**  
Diocese of Orlando

**Most Rev. Erik T. Pohlmeier**  
Diocese of St. Augustine

**Most Rev. Enrique E. Delgado**  
Archdiocese of Miami

## *Prayer* TO DEFEAT AMENDMENT 4:

*Ever-living God, you give life and desire a future for all your children. Take hold of our nation, state and community and awaken in every heart awe for the gift of life. Send your Spirit to strengthen us with wisdom and fortitude as we defend mothers and children in Florida from laws that disregard their health and safety.*

*Mary and Joseph trusted in you and welcomed Jesus into our broken world. God Almighty, we ask their intercession to protect the preborn and their mothers, and to guide all parents in raising their children. May they help us build a civilization of love by upholding the sacredness of life and accompanying pregnant women in need.*

*We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*Our Lady, Mother of the Family, pray for us! St. Joseph, Protector of the Unborn, pray for us!*



\* Florida law distinguishes between parental consent prior to a minor's abortion (Ch. 390.01114(5) which would be invalidated by Amendment 4 and parental notice of a minor's abortion (Ch. 390.01114(4)), which would be retained.

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