



# 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)

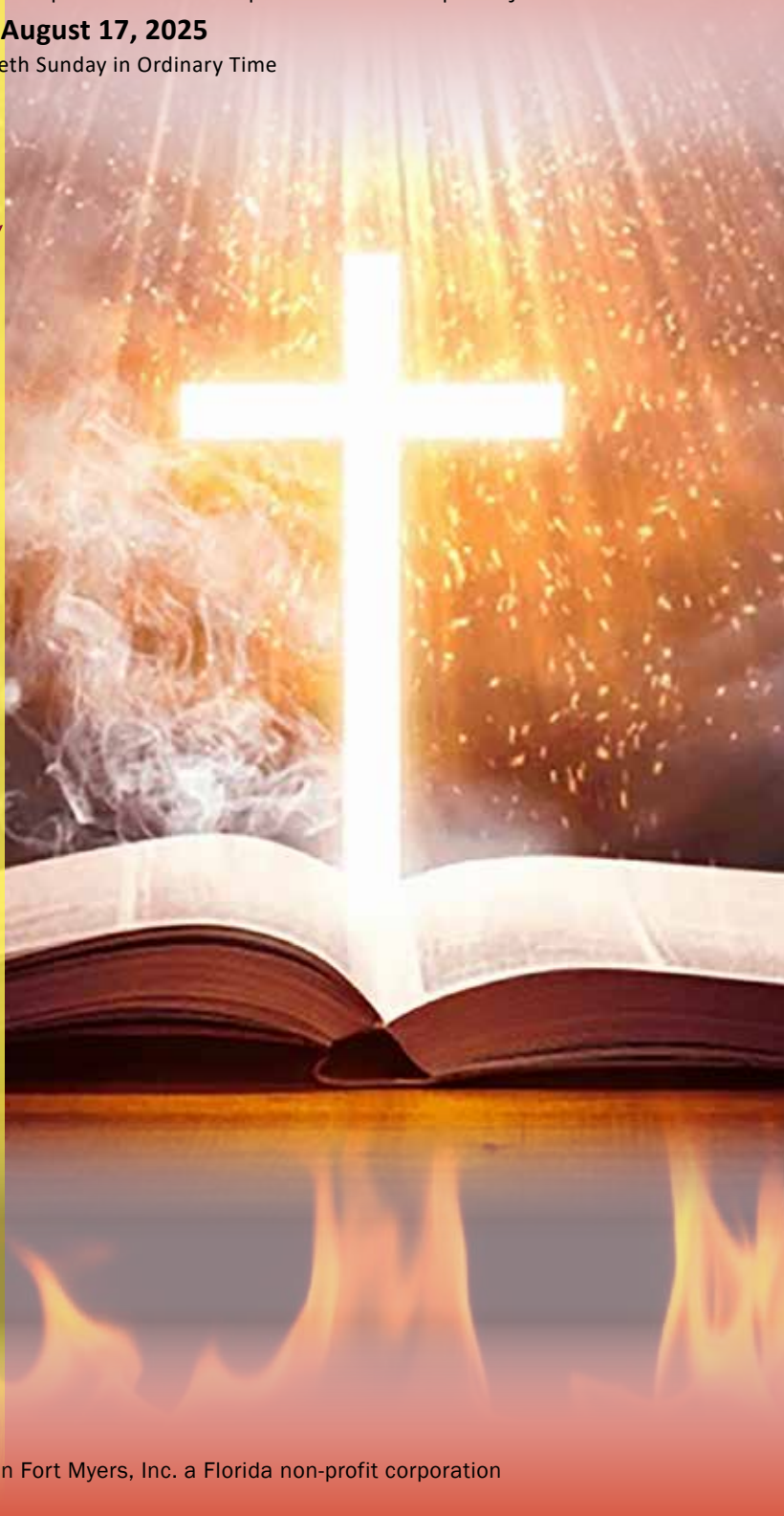
**August 17, 2025**

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Flame OF Faith

*“Never let  
the fire in  
your heart  
go out.  
Keep it  
alive. Serve  
the Lord.”*

- Romans 12:11



**August 17, 2025**

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

**PASTOR**

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

**PAROCHIAL VICARS**

**Fr. Jimmy Pham**  
frjimmy@johnxxiii.net

**Fr. Greg Dougherty**  
frgreg@johnxxiii.net

**DEACONS**

**Deacon Rich Klish**  
DeaconRich@johnxxiii.net

**Deacon John Gaulin**  
deaconjpg@gmail.com

**SEMINARIAN: Lam Vo**  
lam@johnxxiii.net

**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**

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

8:00am Daily Mass (Monday-Saturday)  
4:00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)  
7:15am, 9:15am, 11:15am (Sunday)  
1:30pm Spanish Mass (Sunday)  
5:00pm Vietnamese Mass (Sunday)

**PRAYING THE ROSARY:**

7:15am Mon-Fri & Saturday 7:00am  
Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel  
**ADORATION CHAPEL:**  
8:30am-6:00pm (Mon Tue Thurs Fri)  
8:30am-3:45pm (Wed)  
8:30am-3:30pm (Saturday)

*Mass Intentions*

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18**

- 8:00 AM † John Asmo by the Family

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19**

- 8:00 AM † Paul Cook by The Kopper Family

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**

- 8:00 AM † Joseph Cheslik by The Cheslik Family

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21**

- 8:00 AM † Diego & Antoinette Bosco by Ria & Robert Brown

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22**

- 8:00 AM † Michael Rovnak, Sr. by The Rovnak Family

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**

- 8:00 AM † Rick Leonardos by the Family
- 4:00 PM † William & Ethel Hesselbach  
by Cleo & Mike Hesselbach

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**

- 7:15 AM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII
- 9:15 AM † Janet Griggs by C.C. & David Carpenter
- 11:15 AM † Dr. Nuel Celebrado by Michael Borkowski
- 1:30 PM † Lois Myers by Frances Tomcavage - Spanish Mass
- 5:00 PM † Micae & Phanxico - Vietnamese Mass

**\*\*\* MASS INTENTIONS INFORMATION \*\*\***

Mass Intentions for **JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026** are NOW  
available for purchase in the parish office. Each registered family may  
purchase four Masses (2 weekend and 2 weekday) per calendar year.

Another option for you to consider is "Unannounced Masses" which  
are available for purchase by anyone at any time. These "Unannounced  
Masses" are said privately by a DOV priest. Please contact the parish  
office with any questions. All Masses are \$10 each.

**AUGUST 24, 2025 - SUNDAY READINGS**

- 1ST READING ISAIAH 66:18-21
- PSALM PSALM 117:1, 2
- 2ND READING HEBREWS 12:5-7, 11-13
- GOSPEL LUKE 13:22-30

**IN MEMORIAM**

**A FUNERAL MASS will be held in the CHAPEL**  
**Monday, August 18 at 10:00am for:**

*John Gorman*

**NO VISITATION • NO BURIAL**

**Pastoral Team**

**Business Manager**

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

**Facilities Director**

**Jason Goss**  
239-561-2245

**Maintenance**

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239-561-2245

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239-561-7499

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239-561-2245

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239-561-2245

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

**Thrift Store Manager**

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

**PLC Coordinator**

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

## MESSAGE FROM

The  
St. John XXIII  
Pastor

*Fr. Jay*



Dear Friends,

The readings this week may seem a little scary. They talk about fire and division, which unfortunately is often interpreted as punishment to those who do not listen to His word. But there is a deeper meaning in this passage while reading it through scriptural lenses. Jesus, being the Son of God, wanted to break through the complacent minds of his own clan. The Jews believed that being blessed with wealth, riches and having a large family was enough to be called 'the chosen people'. Please read the whole chapter that explains His teachings on being worldly.

I remember a proverb, "**he who is on fire cannot sit on a chair**". Jesus wanted to break through this Jewish comfort zone. He wanted to ignite the flame and wished it were already blazing. He wanted to bring fire into their hearts with His word.

The power of the Word of God, as explained in Hebrews 4:12, completes its task... **'the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart'**.

The fire we receive through baptism is the true faith in Jesus. Without Jesus, everything becomes worldly, and anything worldly ends up divided. The fire of Jesus is like the sharp flame coming out of a fire-gun that welds metals or fire on the furnace to brighten up glittering gold. By use of strong words, Jesus is calling us to get 'glittered in faith' and stick to one another and to renounce anything worldly.

Let us try to see the flame of faith in ourselves and set it as a blazing fire through witnessing our faith.

God Bless,  
Fr. Jay Raju

- **Reading 1: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10**
- **Reading 2: Hebrews 12:1-4**
- **Gospel: Luke 12:49-53**



## PRAYER FOR A

# BURNING *Faith*

*Lord, I love You and  
believe in You. Help me  
to fan the flame of faith  
planted in my heart into a  
blazing and all-consuming  
fire. Help me to know  
and love You so that  
this knowledge and love  
transforms me. Purify my  
soul by this fire and free me  
from any hardness of heart.*

*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**  
**Cynthia & William**  
**Sandy Szymanski**  
**Celeste Kane**  
**Cole McGinnis**  
**Carol Quid**  
**Paul Bock**  
**George Flaherty Sr.**  
**Ed & Jan Rybczyk**  
**Kelly Roper**  
**Brian Collins**  
**Vicki DiVona**  
**Dahlia Garcia**

**James Hickey**  
**Kathleen Kelmer**  
**Bryce Smedley**  
**Linda Bissett**  
**Linda Anderson**  
**Bob Van Arnum**  
**Kevin Rando**  
**Maria Maragioglio**  
**Bob McQueary**  
**Kevin Walsh**  
**Anthony Donatelli Jr.**  
**Michael Alicanti**  
**Meghan Hemmer**  
**Fr. Bill Jarema**  
**Mary Ann Owen**  
**Chuck Nieset**  
**Glen Beatty**

**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)



## *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!

**Elena Gonzalez**  
**Marie Boutwell**  
**Paul Buldak**  
**Thomas Ray**  
**John Gorman**  
**Robert Curry**



## *Tabernacle Candle*

In Memory of: **Michael Granchi**

Requested by: **Craig & Sue Edwards**

## **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!





## Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



### Monday, August 18

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 6pm
- Men's Gospel Forum: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am/Pilgrim Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Craftie Ladies: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 1pm
- Women's Guild: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 6:45pm

### Tuesday, August 19

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 6pm
- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Michael - 1:30pm
- Pilgrim Confession: 5:15pm/Pilgrim Mass: 6pm - Chapel
- Pilgrim Adoration & Benediction: Chapel - 6:30pm
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 7pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

### Wednesday, August 20

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 3:45pm
- Pastoral Staff Meeting: Office Conference Room - 10am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am/Pilgrim Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Blaze (Middle School Girls) Meet & Greet: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 6pm
- Sisters of Strength (High School Girls) Meet & Greet: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm

### Thursday, August 21

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am-6pm
- Outreach Ministry Meeting: PLC/Martha/Mary - 10:30am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am/Pilgrim Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Rooted - Ages 18-35: PLC/St. Martha/St. Mary - 6:30pm

### Friday, August 22

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 6pm with Overnight Adoration from 6pm-8am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am - Chapel
- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 8pm

### Saturday, August 23

- Rosary - 7am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Confessions after 8am Mass
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 3:30pm
- Vigil Mass: Main Hall - 4pm

### Sunday, August 24

- 7:15am, **NOTE: 9:15am\* Livestreamed** & 11:15am in the Main Hall
- Bloodmobile: Parking Lot - 8am-1pm
- Pre-School Bible Class: St. Susanna - 9:15am
- OCIA: Chapel/Christina/Elizabeth - 10:30am
- Spanish Mass: Main Hall - 1:30pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Chapel - 5pm
- Youth Ministry Concert: Main Hall - 6:30pm



## WELCOME

### New Parishioners

- Maria Bayán
- Matthew & Mikaila Stander
- Stephanie Barry
- Jose & Maribel Saldana
- Elaine Kerr
- Mauricio Mora & Carla Salvador
- John E. Hopson
- Manuel & Stefanie Velez

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 this Sunday, August 17, 2025 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               | Lt. Col. Mike Garry, US Army,     |
| Sean Ball                    | 82nd ABN                          |
| Major Bart Boma              | Sgt. Eric Lyons, USMC             |
| Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove   | Capt. Nicholas Meunier, US Army   |
| Sgt. Phil Dellibovi          | Robert Trenton Morell, Medic      |
| M/Sgt Jarod Gaudet           | Specialist US Army                |
| Capt. Kellyn C. Hall         | Michael Thomas Morell, US Navy    |
| Andrew Herman                | SPC 4 Judy Martinez, US Army      |
| Sgt. Kathleen Hudepohl       | Christopher Dominski, PFC ARNG    |
| PFC Michael P. Hughes        | 2nd Lt. Sara Wulff                |
| SPC Michael Jednak           | Sean Dryhurst US Navy             |
| PFC Andrew Kanopkh           | Lt. Amanda Macaluso               |
| Michael Klem                 | Anthony An Schroeder,             |
| Major Bradley D. Laux        | 11 Bravo Infantry                 |
| Capt. Jacob Mundo, US Army   | Derrick Hambling, Army            |
| SSGT Anthony Padula          | Airborne Infantry                 |
| Master SGT Peter Parison     | Maj. Paige Blevins USAF           |
| Sgt. Justin Pingicer, Army   | Maj. Christopher Blevins USAF     |
| Lt. Col. Brady Sexton        | Capt. Cameron Hortman USAF        |
| Christian Troutner, US Navy  | PFC Alan Copeland                 |
| Alex Zizzo, US Navy Medic    | Zachary Gagis, Lt. Cdr, USN       |
| PFC Jordan Feil, USA         | Andrew Duffy, USSF                |
| Aaron Crump, USCG            | A1C Mark Greenwald, USAF          |
| Sgt. Nathaniel Broemmell     | Col. Jeffrey Greenwald, USMC      |
| Lt. Com. Mark Buonomo        | Sarah Lambert, USAF               |
| BG Scott C. Woodward         | 1st Lt. Jarod Pankau USAF         |
| Ryan Silva, Army             | 1st Lt. Curi Pankau USAF          |
| 2nd Lt. Greg Fry, USMC       | Charles Connolly, US Navy         |
| Jared Broemmell, US Navy     | PFC Abner Casiano, US Army Ranger |
| 2nd Lt. Edward Hudson        | Ensign Aaron Humphrey             |
| Tillinghast IV, Army         | Lieutenant Adam Blevins USAF      |
| Jethro Ignacio, US Air Force | Lt. Colonel Ken Hussey            |
| Eric Sanchez, US Air Force   | Lt. Com. Zachary Gagis            |



## General Announcements

- **Join the Hallow App:** visit [hallow.com/parish](http://hallow.com/parish) and search (using your zip code is fastest), and follow the prompts.
- **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 parish 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/>
- **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:** Due to the Jubilee, please note: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30am-6pm, Wednesdays 8:30am-3:45pm, Saturday 8:30am-3:30pm. **Friday Overnight Adoration will continue indefinitely from 6pm-8am. Adorers will need a code to get in after 6pm.** 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. 15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110, Ft. Myers. For more information email [thrift@johnxxiii.net](mailto:thrift@johnxxiii.net) or visit [www.bpjthrift.com](http://www.bpjthrift.com)
- **Keep Our Database Current:** Have you moved, changed email addresses, dropped a landline or changed your cell number? Please email [martha@johnxxiii.net](mailto:martha@johnxxiii.net) with any changes or additions to your contact information.
- **Craftie Ladies Charity Donations Needed:** The ladies are collecting new or gently used towel, body wash, soap and kid's shampoo for a charity. Donations can be dropped off in the designated box in the Parish Life Center.
- **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.

## ATTENTION ALL *Engaged AND Married* COUPLES



Teams of Our Lady

## Appetizer and Information Night

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17  
6:00PM**

**MARRIAGE  
IS THE  
WAY TO  
HAPPINESS**

- a quote by Fr. Caffarel



*You are invited* to the home of Linda and John Stankiewicz to find out how to keep Christ in Your Marriage, and enjoy the fellowship and prayer life of Teams of Our Lady.

**EMAIL** John and Linda at [jjlinstan@aol.com](mailto:jjlinstan@aol.com) for our address by **Sunday, August 17.**

*May God Bless you and your marriage.*  
- Linda and John







ST. JOHN XXIII  
YOUTH COUNCIL

**PRAISE & WORSHIP**

# YOUTH CONCERT *and Adoration Night*

**FAMILIES WELCOME**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**

*6:30pm - Main Hall*

*snacks and 50/50 raffle tickets will be available for purchase*



**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT YOUTH MINISTRY**

# Faith FORMATION

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

## 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 after the preparation process is completed by the parents 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 **Frannie** 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. For more information or to begin the process, please contact **Frannie** at **239-561-7499**. 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, contact **Kelly Evers** at **239-561-3022** to begin the process.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:** Congratulations on your decision to enter the beautiful sacrament of marriage! The heart of Marriage Preparation in the Catholic Church is the realization that "your wedding is one day but your marriage lasts a lifetime." Couples wishing to be married will need to contact us at least six months prior to the desired date. A venue should not be booked prior to first meeting with a priest and getting a confirmation from the parish office. The engaged couple will complete the Witness to Love program alongside a mentor couple, fill out the required forms, provide updated Baptismal Certificate(s) and attend a Diocesan retreat. For more information or to begin the process, please contact **Viviana** in the parish office at **239-561-2245**.



Order of Christian Initiation

# 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

All parishioners are invited to share in the OCIA experience by making them aware of the Reflection Questions that the participants are discussing each week.

**Below are the next session reflections:**

### 8/17 - Holy Trinity

How does a closer study of the Trinity impact your prayer life as you build a closer relationship with Jesus Christ?

### 8/24 - Who is Jesus?

In two or more paragraphs, reflect on how the love of Jesus has touched your life thus far, and how that has affected your faith journey.

### 8/31 - No Class/Labor Day Weekend

### 9/7 - Bible Overview & Navigation/Use

What part of the Bible has most shaped your faith journey?

*It is more blessed to  
give than to receive.*

ACTS 20:35b







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

### Rooted at St. John XXIII

Visit our Rooted Facebook page for more information or join our Flocknote contact group: <https://StJohnXXIIICommunity.flocknote.com/Rooted2024-2025>

### ROOTED 18-35

**MEETS *Every Thursday***  
**6:30pm - PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary**

### ROOTED YOUNG FAMILIES

*(children welcome)*

**MEETS THE *First Thursday***  
**OF EACH MONTH**  
**7pm - PLC/St. Susanna**



### Confirmation Program

**Registration for 2025-26 Season is NOW OPEN!**

Visit the parish website under the Sacrament Tab

- **First Year Study** - There will be a Eucharist Retreat with parents on **September 14 at 5pm**
- **Second Year Study** - Parent and child meeting will take place on **September 14 at 3pm**

### Gospel Talks for Teens

**Registration is NOT REQUIRED**

All high school parishioners are welcome to join in on the conversation from 10:15am to 11:15am on the **following Dates:** 9/21, 9/28, 11/14, 11/21, 1/18, 1/25, 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 3/22, 3/29, 4/19, 4/26, 5/3

### Middle School Youth Group

**Registration for 2025-26 is NOW OPEN!**

**Dates include:** 8/24, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4, 3/25, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22

### Faith in Action Team (F.I.A.T.)

This is a group of Middle and Highschool aged youth who meet together to plan events such as our upcoming **Praise and Worship Concert on 8/24 with Adoration.**

### Volunteer Opportunities

Scan this code to be directed to our SignUp genius page to register for youth volunteer opportunities.



Our parish's Young Adult Ministry is a growing community for anyone ages 18 to 35 seeking connection, purpose, and a deeper relationship with Christ. Whether you're in college, working, single, married, or somewhere in between, you are welcomed, supported, and encouraged here.

**We meet every Thursday at 6:30 PM**—usually in the Parish Life Center—with a different activity each week. These include faith discussions, game nights, service projects, and relaxed social gatherings. We also host casual weekend hangouts like beach days, dinners, and Bible studies at local coffee shops. It's all about building real friendships rooted in faith.

Since relaunching in June, we've had a consistent group of 12 to 15 members, and we're excited to welcome more. A strong young adult ministry is essential to the future of our Church and community. It's a place where young people can be seen, heard, and loved.

If you're a young adult, we'd love to meet you! And if you know someone who might benefit from a community like this: your children, nieces, nephews, coworkers, or friends. Please share this with them.

Join our GroupMe chat using the QR code in the bulletin to stay connected. We're here, and we're growing together in Christ.



# Guardian Angels WALKWAY

## PAVER MEMORIALIZATION



St. John XXIII Parish, along with the Knights of Columbus and The Women's Guild, are excited to offer **12x12 pavers**, which will be placed on the walkway around the site for our St. Michael the Archangel statue. **The price for each paver is \$350.** This is a wonderful way to pay tribute to a loved one who has served, or is currently serving in the military or as a first responder.

**FYI**

Paver orders may also be placed at **[www.KC23.org](http://www.KC23.org)**

*Defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, Oh Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

## Guardian Angels WALKWAY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Payments may be made by cash, credit card or check.**

I would like to pay by:

☐ CASH ☐ CHECK ☐ CREDIT CARD

**If paying by check, please make checks payable to the Knights of Columbus.**

To order, or check the status of an order, please contact  
The Knights of Columbus:

LARRY EVENER: [larryevener@yahoo.com](mailto:larryevener@yahoo.com)

The Women's Guild Contact:

LINDA HEINZ: [LMHeinz1016@gmail.com](mailto:LMHeinz1016@gmail.com)

## PAVER ORDER FORM

Please circle the graphic to be added to the stone:



Please print clearly. The 12x12 paver has 3 lines.

LINE 1 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
example: John Doe

LINE 2 RANK \_\_\_\_\_  
example: SGT. USMC

LINE 3 SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_  
example: WWII

**Please sign and date verifying all information is correct on the paver.**

PRINT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_





## 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/>



ST. JOHN XXIII  
Catholic Church

## Weekly Financials



	8-10-25	8-11-24	Difference
Offertory	\$33,433.27	\$28,611.56	<b>\$4,821.71</b>
Building Fund	\$1,713.00	\$1,989.00	<b>(\$276.00)</b>
Total	\$35,146.27	\$30,600.56	<b>\$4,545.71</b>
Mass Attendance	2555	2740	
Registered Families	3824	3618	

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

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

### 2025 Catholic Faith Appeal

2025 Goal	\$512,000.00
Pledge	\$501,974.56
Payments	<b>\$443,052.11</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)**





# GOD | AT | WORK



## Thank You

from the

### PINECREST ELEMENTARY TEAM

St. John XXIII Outreach Ministry Pinecrest Elementary team would like to thank all who have donated in support of about 600 impoverished children. Your generosity has enabled us to make a difference in these children's lives. Together, we have provided:

- Healthy snacks (granola bars, peanut butter, crackers, cereal, etc.)
- 623 water bottles to keep the children hydrated
- 204 umbrellas to protect them from the rain so they don't have to sit in school all day with wet clothes.
- Over 100 bath towels, wash clothes, and bars of soap for students to shower at school (they may not have a shower at home)
- 72 uniform shirts, 32 boys briefs and 100 girls panties.
- Laundry kits which enable the students, who do not have washing machines in their homes, to hand wash their clothes while their parents are working long hours as migrant workers. The Vacation Bible School children and their parents were instrumental in helping us with assembling laundry kits. We have assembled over 100 laundry kits: 108 plastic bins/buckets, 111 bottles of laundry detergent, 103 mesh laundry bags, and over 2,000 clothes pins.
- Over 200 gently used toys.

We appreciate your continued generosity caring for those less fortunate.

***Please note: Healthy snacks were delivered to Pinecrest Elementary April 17 and May 22. All of the other items on this list were delivered to Pinecrest on July 24.***



## OUTREACH MINISTRY



*Save a Life Sunday*

## DONATE BLOOD



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24**

**8am-1pm**

St. John XXIII Parking Lot



### **HELP US MAKE OUR GOAL OF 25 UNITS**

The Lee Health Bloodmobile is back next **Sunday, August 24 from 8:00am-1:00pm** in the church parking lot.

Spend a few minutes of your time and save the life of another person. Your donation will benefit local residents and visitors in Lee County.

All donors will receive a thank you gift card and wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.



## AVOID FALLS

### **"FALLING IS NOT A NORMAL PART OF AGING"**

Falling can be prevented by addressing the risk factors in our homes and living areas. The Fire Department recently provided a presentation at St. John XXIII Catholic Church and the information is critical in keeping you healthy. They describe their goal as preventing you from having "One Bad Day" (a fall!). The acronym "AVOID FALLS" can help you to minimize some of those risk factors.

**A** = Awareness of Risk Factors

**V** = Vision (have it checked)

**O** = Other medical problems

**I** = Imbalance (balance training is very helpful to prevent falls, and falls prevent fractures!)

**D** = Drug interactions (address your medications and over the counter medicines with your doctor)

**F** = Faulty Footware (closed toe sneakers and sturdy shoes are best)

**A** = Assistive Devices

**L** = Living space environment is free of trip hazards

**L** = Level of activity is appropriate for your abilities

**S** = Step Wise Lee (a program to help prevent falls in Lee County)

BE SAFE, and if you have any of these risk factors, discuss them with your doctor.

For falls prevention resources, call the elder helpline at **800 963-5337** or call **911** for ALL medical emergencies. If you do fall and only need help getting back up, you can say "Lift Assist Only" if you call EMS/911. But it's much better to prevent that fall in the first place!



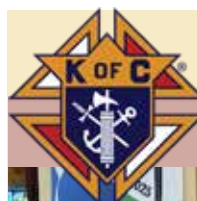


## SUICIDE PREVENTION awareness WARNING SIGNS

- **Excessive sadness or moodiness:** Long-lasting sadness, mood swings, and unexpected rage.
- **Hopelessness:** Feeling a deep sense of hopelessness about the future, with little expectation that circumstances can improve. Possible sleep issues.
- **Sudden calmness:** Suddenly becoming calm after a period of depression or moodiness can be a sign that the person has made a decision to end his or her life.
- **Withdrawal:** Choosing to be alone and avoiding friends or social activities also are possible symptoms of depression, a leading cause of suicide. This includes the loss of interest or pleasure in activities the person previously enjoyed.
- **Changes in personality/appearance:** A person who is considering suicide might exhibit a change in attitude or behavior, such as speaking or moving with unusual speed or slowness. In addition, the person might suddenly become less concerned about their personal appearance.
- **Self-harmful behavior:** Potentially dangerous behavior, such as reckless driving, engaging in unsafe sex, and increased use of drugs and/or alcohol might indicate that the person no longer values his or her life.
- **Recent trauma or life crisis:** A major life crisis might trigger a suicide attempt. Crises include the death of a loved one or pet, divorce or break-up of a relationship, diagnosis of a major illness, loss of a job, or serious financial problems.
- **Making preparations:** Often, a person considering suicide will begin to put his or her personal business in order. This might include visiting friends and family members, giving away personal possessions, making a will, and cleaning up his or her room or home. Some people will write a note before committing suicide. Some will buy a firearm or other means like poison.
- **Threatening suicide:** 50% to 75% of those considering suicide will give someone a warning sign. However, not everyone will say so, or will follow through with it. Every threat of suicide should be taken seriously.

— DIAL 988 —  
**SUICIDE**  
 PREVENTION

suicidepreventionlifeline.org



*Knights of Columbus*

## UPDATE



*pictured above: Dean Saucier, Knights of Columbus, Judy Regner, Ryan House and Linda Heinz, the Women's Guild*

The Knights of Columbus and the Women's Guild want to thank our Bingo players for once again supporting our efforts to help others. Recently, a check was presented from Bingo proceeds, for **\$2,100** to Ryan House. This organization safely reunites mothers and children from trafficking and substance abuse cases.

*If you would like more information visit:*

**[www.ryanhouse.org](http://www.ryanhouse.org)**



## CHANGE OF DATE NOTICE:

Due to the roof repairs, **monthly BINGO will take place on Tuesday, August 26 rather than August 12** as previously scheduled. Please inform your bingo friends of the change. The **AUGUST BINGO** will benefit the young students at Pinecrest School in Immokalee.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 26**  
**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.



## *Catholic Community* **HAPPENINGS**

**Pope's August Prayer Intentions:** Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons. To join monthly intentions, visit: [www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/](http://www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/)

**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.

**Witnessing Faith:** Join Bishop Frank J. Dewane 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. "Witnessing Faith with Bishop Dewane" can be heard at **8:30am on Friday, August 25.**

**St. Andrew Annual Golf Tournament:** All are welcome to join us Saturday, September 13 for our annual Golf Tournament at Palmetto Pine Country Club. \$125 per golfer, \$500 team of four and sponsorships available. Register now at [standrewscs.org/sacs-golf](http://standrewscs.org/sacs-golf) or call **239-772-3922** for more information. Visit our website: [www.standrewcs.org](http://www.standrewcs.org)

**Natural Family Planning Introductory Session:** Learn about NFP with a free introductory session. The Diocese of Venice supports the Creighton Model Fertility Care System, and free online training sessions are being offered by the St. Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility Care on Saturday, September 20, and Tuesday, October 21. Choose one that fits your schedule! The sessions are free, but registration is required. Register at [bit.ly/SGIntroSession](http://bit.ly/SGIntroSession) For more information, visit [stgiannacenter.com](http://stgiannacenter.com) or contact Jim Gontis at [gontis@dioceseofvenice](mailto:gontis@dioceseofvenice) **941-486-4754**

**Support After Abortion:** Are you or someone you know struggling because of a past abortion? You are not alone! Know that healing retreats and support are available for anyone who has experienced an abortion, including mothers, fathers and other family members who have been hurt. To learn more, call or text **941-412-5860** or email [project.rachel@diocese](mailto:project.rachel@diocese) in either English or Spanish. All contacts are confidential.

**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/>

**Nourish House Calls for Caregivers:** We offer support, encouragement, prayer and EXACTLY what you need, right now! Every Tuesday Morning: 11am ET, 10am CT, 9am MT, 8am PT AND Monthly on the 2nd Thursday Evening: 8pm ET, 7pm CT, 6pm MT, 5pm PT The nourishment you NEED during your caregiving days! Join us on Zoom a few minutes before our start time at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/689619997#success>

## **PRAYER FOR SAFETY** During Hurricane Season

**THROUGH NOVEMBER 30**

*Oh God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.*

*You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.*

*During this hurricane season we turn to You, Oh loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.*

*Oh Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask You to plead with Your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of Your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us.*

*Amen.*





*Knights of Columbus*

**WHAT'S NEW?**

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Fifth Annual*  
**Charity Golf Tournament**

**Saturday, October 11, 2025**

The *Club* at  
**GATEWAY**



SCAN the QR  
code for more  
information or  
register at:

**KC23.org/golf**

**To Sponsor, Contact:**

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**For more information contact:**

**NANCY ARIZA**, Conference Coordinator

**(281) 906-1546 or nancy@forlifeandfamily.org**

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# HEARING LOOP INSTALLED IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

St. John XXIII installed a Hearing Loop in the Parish Life Center to assist those with hearing loss in order to hear more clearly during events, activities, and meetings. A Hearing Loop is an assistive listening system that transmits sound directly into one's hearing aids or cochlear implants rather than depending on sound coming from the loudspeakers. To receive the Loop signal and hear more clearly, manually activate your T-coil or telephone setting on your hearing aid or cochlear implant. If you don't know if you have a T-coil or whether yours is properly programmed, consult your audiologist or hearing aid professional. If you don't wear hearing aids, ask to use a Loop receiver to receive the sound.



If you have further questions about Looping, please contact the installation company, **Complete Hearing Solutions** at [www.CompleteHearingSolutions.org](http://www.CompleteHearingSolutions.org) or call (727) 260-3488



## HEARING LOOP BASICS:

### How Does a Hearing Loop Work?

A Hearing Loop, through the use of a Loop amplifier and strategically placed wire around the room, transmits a signal (electromagnetically) that is received directly by and into a hearing aid or cochlear implant that has a T-coil installed in it or a special receiver for those who don't wear hearing devices.

### What are the benefits of a Loop System?

Loop Systems help eliminate bothersome background noise and reverberation/echo. Additionally, Loops transmit sound directly into hearing aids and cochlear implants utilizing the prescriptive corrections that are programmed for that individual. No external receivers are required but are available for those without hearing devices.

### What is a T-Coil?

A T-coil or Telecoil, is a small metal rod with metal wire wrapped around it that is installed in a hearing aid or cochlear implant which is necessary to receive the Loop signal. The other purpose of the T-coil is to make using the telephone easier by eliminating the high pitched interference you may hear when putting the phone to your ear.

### How do I know if I have a T-Coil?

The T-coil program necessary for use with the Loop System is one that is manually activated by the user. This is done by either pressing a button on the hearing aid or cochlear implant itself or by use of a remote control. You may presently be pressing this button to use the telephone - It is the same program. If you are uncertain if you have a manual T-coil program, consult with your hearing professional as you may have one but it may not be activated.



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