



ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

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

August 31, 2025

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

COME
TO ME
all who
Labor
AND
I WILL
give you
Rest

- Matthew 11:28



August 31, 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
deaconjg@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, SEPTEMBER 1 - LABOR DAY

- 8:00 AM † Maureen Dolan by Peg & Paul Chartrand

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- 8:00 AM † Michael Cullen by Lori Cullen

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- 8:00 AM † Helen Totte by The Totte Family

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 8:00 AM † Charles & Barbara Tarkinson by Ray & Janet Totaro

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- 8:00 AM † Diane Harvey by Marian Loudon

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- 8:00 AM † Anthony R. Totaro by Ray & Janet Totaro
- 4:00 PM † Joseph Bissell by The Walsh Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- 7:15 AM † Vivian Pica by Bruno Pica
- 9:15 AM † Charles McDonald by his family
- 11:15 AM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII
- 1:30 PM † Ann Rehil by Marie Guanci - Spanish Mass
- 5:00 PM ♥ Peace - Vietnamese Mass

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 - SUNDAY READINGS

- 1ST READING WISDOM 9:13-18B
- PSALM PSALM 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17
- 2ND READING PHILEMON 9-10, 12-17
- GOSPEL LUKE 14:25-33

IN MEMORIAM

A FUNERAL MASS will be held in the CHAPEL
Saturday, September 6 at 12pm for:

Mike Granchi

Visitation: 11:30am/Narthex • No Burial

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

Viviana Jaramillo-Mestra
viviana@johnxxiii.net
239-561-2245

Admin. Assistant

Ellen Januszkiewicz
ellen@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
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

Labor Day

and the VIRTUE of WORK

by: James Bemis - Catholic Exchange



Labor Day Roots:

The first Labor Day celebration took place in New York on September 5, 1882, and featured a march around Manhattan's Union Square by 10,000 workers. Later, there were picnics, dancing, fireworks and, naturally, speeches extolling the virtues of the working class. So successful was the event that unions called for its annual celebration, designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

The idea caught on. From its union roots, Labor Day began honoring the broader contribution made by all workers to life in these United States. Oregon first recognized Labor Day on February 21, 1887. Within a few years, Labor Day became a federal holiday, fulfilling Peter McGuire's dreams.

The Church View:

Catholic social teaching has long stressed the value of work in developing the dignity of each person. As the great Pope Leo XIII said in his 1891 encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, "gainful occupations are not a mark of shame to man, but rather of respect, as they provide him with an honorable means of supporting life."

More recently, in his encyclical *On Human Work*, Pope John Paul II wrote, "Work is a good thing for man – a good thing for his humanity – because through work man not only transforms nature, but he also achieves fulfillment as a human being and indeed in a sense becomes more a human being."

Much of our thinking in this country about the value and dignity of a good day's labor comes from what sociologist Max Weber called "the Protestant work ethic," a term you don't hear much anymore. Under Weber's thesis, American settlers brought an attitude of hard work and thrift as religious and moral obligations.

For earlier generations of Americans, work was considered a calling, a way of honoring God. Thus, any legitimate work had inherent value, no matter how menial or low-paid. Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Little House" books — among this country's greatest literary works — provide some of the best portrayals of the old American work ethic. Her parents' self-reliance and industriousness would shame today's hardest-working entrepreneurs.

Time-Honored Work Ethic:

Although the welfare state has undercut much of this work ethic, belief in the value of industry in building character and responsibility remains strong. Our own self-image and spiritual well-being are still directly tied to how productively we spend our waking hours — no different than in Laura Wilder's day.

Today, of course, Labor Day signals the final breath of summer, the end of vacation, the last bit of fun before school starts. But it's also fitting that we pause to pay tribute to the simplest, as well as the most complex, of human endeavors: the time-honored notion of good, honest labor that earns its daily bread.

PRAYER FOR

Labor Day

*Lord, on this Labor Day,
we thank you for
the blessings of work.*

*We ask for the strength
to complete each day.*

*We ask for rest for
when we are weary.*

*We ask for Your guidance
for everyone seeking
employment, and we ask
that You be with those
whose faces we might
never see but who work
tirelessly each day for
the good of us all.*

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
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
Bob McQueary
Kevin Walsh
Anthony Donatelli Jr.
Michael Alicanti
Meghan Hemmer
Mary Ann Owen
Chuck Nieset
Glen Beatty
Marilyn Ditttrich
Jackie Ryall
Anthony Prichinello
Ted Veenhuis**

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

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!

**Solomon Espina
Andrew Shay
John Marty
Maria Maragioglio
James Edward Madden**

Tabernacle Candle

In Honor of: **Anthony Perrelli**
Requested by: **Paul Talley**

Adoration Chapel

In Memory of: **James Madden**
Requested by: **Carolyn & John Smith**





ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER



Monday, September 1 - LABOR DAY

- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED/THRIFT STORE CLOSED
- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 12pm
- Men's Gospel Forum: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am/Pilgrim Mass: 12pm - Chapel

Tuesday, September 2

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 6pm
- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC - 9am
- Walking w/ Purpose Open House: Martha/Mary/Bern/ - 10am
- 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
- Auditions for Musicial Revue: Main Hall - 7:30pm

Wednesday, September 3

- 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: Parish Office Conference Room - 6pm
- Faith Formation Session 1: Main Hall/Classrooms - 4:15pm
- Faith Formation Session 2: Main Hall/Classrooms - 6:15pm
- Middle School Youth Group: PLC/Martha/Mary - 6:15pm
- Sisters of Strength: Parish Office Conference Room - 7:30pm

Thursday, September 4

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

Friday, September 5

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- 1st Friday Adoration: Chapel - 8:30am
- Adoration Chapel open 8:30am - 6pm
with Overnight Adoration from 6pm-8am
- Pilgrim Confession: 11:15am/Pilgrim Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 8pm

Saturday, September 6

- Rosary - 7am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Benediction/Adoration/Confessions after 8am Mass
- Adoration Chapel open 10am - 3:30pm
- First Saturday Devotions: Main Hall - 10:30am
- Vigil Mass: Main Hall - 4pm
- Birthday Blessings after the 4pm Mass

Sunday, September 7

- 7:15am, **NOTE: 9:15am* Livestreamed** & 11:15am
- Birthday Blessings after Masses
- Pre-School Bible Class: St. Susanna - 9:15am
- OCIA: PLC/St. Christina/St. Elizabeth - 10:30am
- Adult Choir Rehearsal: Chapel - 10:30am
- Spanish Mass: Main Hall - 1:30pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Chapel - 5pm



WELCOME

New Parishioners

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| • Teresa Serafin | • Bryan & Deborah Meyer |
| • Ana Alarcón | • Victor & Minerva Mesillas |
| • Jean Pierre Alarcón | • Nicholas & Marie Donofrio |
| • Monica Rodriguez | • Andres & Elianny Gutierrez |
| • Philip Nicotera | • Yelaine Vazquez Pastrana |

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, November 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

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 |

A LETTER FROM

Bishop Dewane

THE CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
OF AMERICA



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., is the national University of the Catholic Church in the United States. The University community works tirelessly to educate over 5,700 students in more than 250 academic programs throughout the year which will prepare them to serve as Catholic leaders of the Church and nation.

The research and training initiatives of the University support dioceses and parishes in addressing the most pressing needs of future Catholic leaders, both religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-rooted education. The Catholic Project initiative brings together clergy and laity to address the challenges that the Catholic Church faces in the United States.

The Diocese of Venice will take up a collection for the Catholic University of America the weekend of **September 6 and 7, 2025**. Your contribution helps the University to educate thousands of young people in both faith and reason, while upholding the highest standards of education. May God Bless you for your generosity!

This opportunity is taken to extend to you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane

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

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

2025

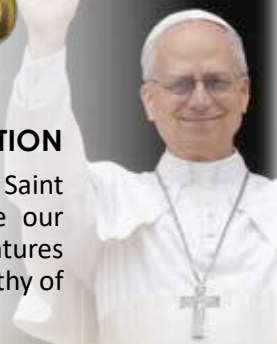
SEPTEMBER:

RELATIONSHIP WITH CREATION

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

For more information:

www.popesprayerusa.net/popes-intentions/



ST. JOHN XXIII

THRIFT store



Selling quality goods
for the good of others.

September



30% OFF STOREWIDE SALE OF PURCHASES OVER \$50

PLEASE NOTE: Excludes firm-priced merchandise, items in locked cases and in curiosity cabinets. The September Specials cannot be combined with other sales, specials, or offers unless stated otherwise.

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

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

www.bpjthrift.com





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

General Announcements

- **Join the Hallow App:** visit 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
- **Follow us on Instagram:** St. John XXIII is now on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/stjohnxxiiiichurch/>
- **St. John XXIII Catholic Church Mass Times:** Stay up to date and visit: <http://johnxxiii.net/info/new-mass-schedule/>
- **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:** 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/ or email: 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 thrif@johnxxiii.net or visit 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 with any changes or additions to your contact information.
- **Craftie Ladies Charity Donations Needed:** The ladies are collecting new or gently used towels, 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.

DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP:

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



SCAN ME

MONTHLY *Blessings* REMINDER

SEPTEMBER 6-7

1st Weekend of the Month

Birthday Blessings will continue to take place once a month after Mass every first weekend.

SEPTEMBER 13-14

2nd Weekend of the Month

Anniversary Blessings take place once a month every second weekend.

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

Faith FORMATION

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



FAITH FORMATION BEGINS!

Wednesday, September 3 - PLC/Classrooms
4:15pm - 5:30pm & 6:15pm - 7:30pm

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.

Parenting Pointer:

GRANDPARENT'S DAY: Sunday, September 7, is Grandparents Day. Join with your children in telling your (or their) grandparents how much they mean to you. Grandparents are the carriers of history. Ask them what they've learned and how the world has changed. Listen. If they are no longer living, talk with them in prayer.

"by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net"

ECO-FRIENDLY TIPS AND TRICKS

while you're out and about

COOLING & HEATING

Invest in a programmable thermostat to make these changes easy so you don't cool or heat your home when no one is there. AC & Heating: In the summer avoid AC until the inside temperature is above 78°; In winter try to wait until the inside temperature is under 68° to turn on the heat. You can always put on a sweater.

Buy a ceiling fan. In warm weather run it counter-clockwise to cool. In cold weather run it clockwise to force warm air down into the living space.



Marriage Moment:

LABOR DAY: Isn't it ironic that Labor Day is a day when many adults get OFF work. However sweet your love for each other may be, the work of love takes no holiday. Do a favor for your honey today. Open a door, get a cold drink, watch the kids unbidden. It needn't be major, just do it.

"by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net"





Coordinator of Youth Ministries 561-3022 xt 107
Contact: Kelly Evers | 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 **Sunday, September 14 at 5pm**
- **Second Year Study** - Parent and child meeting will take place on **Sunday, 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.



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:

8/31 - No Class/Labor Day Weekend

9/7 - Bible Overview & Navigation/Use

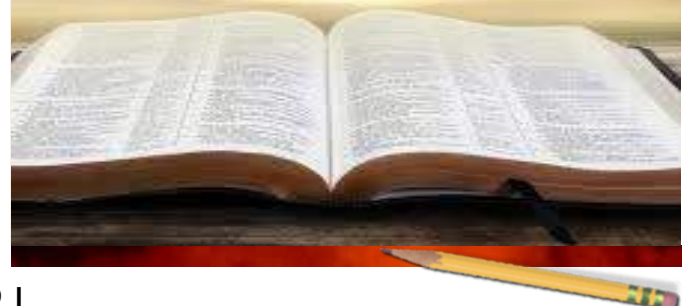
What part of the Bible has most shaped your faith journey?

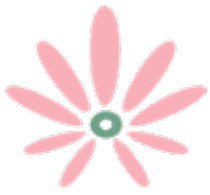
9/14 - The Mass

As Catholics, we believe that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the highest form of worship. In two paragraphs or more, explain why you believe this to be true.

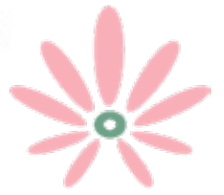
It is more blessed to give than to receive.

ACTS 20:35b





walking with purpose *Come as you are.*



YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women Refuel and refresh & Learn more about God

Walking with Purpose is a program that meets women right where they are, hands them a cup of coffee, and transforms their hearts. We are thrilled to announce that we will offer *four* Bible studies this season! Trust us. This may be your best YES ever.

Opening Your Heart, our foundational study, is perfect for a woman new to WWP (with or without Bible study experience). We invite you to be amazed at how Scripture applies to your everyday life.

Passionate Discipleship journeys through 2 Timothy verse by verse. Come learn how to live as disciples of Christ, living with Him as the center of our lives and entrusting this message to others who can pass it on as well.

Open House for All Studies Tuesday, September 2nd , 10am: PLC

Opening Your Heart Women's Foundational Study



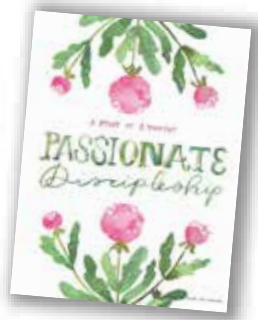
Tuesdays @ 10am
in-person
(PLC)

***only offered**
in-person

Cost: \$55 - Scholarships are available

Passionate Discipleship Women's Study of 2 Timothy

Monday Evenings @
7pm in-person (PLC)
Tuesdays @
10am in-person (PLC)
Wednesdays @
9am Zoom
Thursdays @
7pm Zoom



Cost: \$35 - Scholarships are available

Discovering My Purpose



Middle School
Girl's Study
Wednesdays
7:15 - 8:30pm
Parish Office
Conference Room

Cost: \$30 - Scholarships are available

Sisters of Strength

NEW! High School
Girl's Study
Wednesdays
6:15-7:15pm
Parish Office
Conference Room



Cost: \$25 - Scholarships are available

All studies begin the week of September 8th

For more information, contact: Elizabeth Andrews: 734-552-4560 | Jennifer Eno: 239-826-0747

ENDOWMENT FUND



For Good, For God, Forever

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

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

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



Donors give THROUGH, not TO the FOUNDATION

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

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



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



	8-24-25	8-25-24	Difference
Offertory	\$20,682.77	\$36,428.41	(\$15,745.64)
Building Fund	\$3,734.00	\$1,373.00	\$2,361.00
Total	\$24,416.77	\$37,801.41	(\$13,384.64)
Mass Attendance	2379	2353	
Registered Families	3817	3628	

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	\$522,134.56
Payments	\$479,446.14

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





ST. JOHN XXIII

Catholic Church

Contact: **John Renfro** | musicdirector@johnxxiii.net

There is a place for YOU

Come Join Us!



There will be two audition dates for the upcoming musical revue, *Voices of America* on:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
7:30PM in the Main Hall

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
7:30PM in the Main Hall



**FIRST SATURDAY
DEVOTIONS**

**LIVING
THE MESSAGE
OF FATIMA**

EVERY 1ST SATURDAY
10:30am - 12pm (noon)
Parish Life Center
Main Hall

All Ages Welcome!

Would you like to be a soldier for Our Lady?
Join Fr. Greg and fellow soldiers for fraternity,
meditation, and training every 1st Saturday from
10:30am - 12pm (noon) in the Parish Life Center.

For more information, contact:
Fr. Greg at Frgreg@johnxxiii.net



**65+
SINGLES**

**SUNDAY
BRUNCH**

SEPTEMBER 7
10:45 AM

Cristof's
ON MCGREGOR

10231 McGregor Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33919

If you plan on attending
PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
Carole Eckhout (248) 385-4100



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

MEN'S RETREAT 2025

*The Men's Retreat will
be a day of spiritual
renewal to help men
grow centered on the
gift of the Eucharist.*



THE EUCHARIST: SOURCE AND SUMMIT



**COST
\$15**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

9:30am to 5:00pm - PLC FLEX ROOMS
with Mass together in the PLC at 4:00pm

- The cost is \$15 per person and required prior to the retreat.
- Continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and drinks provided.
- To ensure enough food, please register by September 26.
- Presentations, Table Discussions, Confession, Adoration and Great Fellowship.
- The completed registration form and fee may be turned into the office or placed in an envelope in the collection basket.

MEN'S RETREAT 2025



THE EUCHARIST: SOURCE AND SUMMIT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025
9:30am to 5:00pm - PLC FLEX ROOMS

Cost \$15 - Register by September 26

Drop off in the collection basket or at the parish office.

FULL NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PAYMENT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE RETREAT:

☐ CHECK

☐ CASH

For more information email: Mike Reese at mjreese@ptd.net

Craftie Ladies

MINI

FAIR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
4:00pm - 6:00pm

PLC/ST. MARY & ST. MARY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Approximately 30 minutes prior to
Mass and 1 hour after each Mass
PLC/ST. MARY & ST. MARY

The Mini Fall Sale will take place the weekend of September 20-21 in the PLC, St. Martha & St. Mary. Due to Masses, Saturday hours are 4-6pm. On Sunday, approximately 30 minutes prior to Mass and 1 hour after each Mass. Please note the raffles will take place after the 1:30pm Mass.

Chance to Win a Basket!

- Ladies Golf
- BBQ
- Welcome to my Guestroom
- Ladies Delite
- Read and Relax

Get 1 FREE Raffle Ticket!

Bring a NEW bottle of baby wash or kid's shampoo and receive 1 FREE raffle ticket!

PLEASE NOTE:

Sample bottles accepted but do not count for free raffle ticket. Limit 2 free raffle tickets per person.

MEN'S Gospel FORUM



Welcoming MEN of ALL Ages!

Gospel Forum provides men an opportunity to grow in their faith and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. This gathering of men is not a bible study. The Sunday Scriptures are read aloud, followed by open and meaningful sharing on what the readings mean to us today, as men, and as members of our community. We learn scripture, we pray, we have fellowship, and we laugh a lot! Come as you are, wherever you are in life.

Men's Gospel Forum meets every Monday morning in the PLC/St. Mary/St. Martha from 7:00am to 7:50am.

For more information contact:

MARK BIR: 239-910-2170

MIKE LANCELLOT: 239-940-7580



Thank You

We would like to thank all the people within our parish that help with special hospitality, as well as those who help with the funeral receptions. We are very grateful for your support in our parish community!

We are always in need of individuals to join our hospitality team. For more information, please contact:

HOLLY ATKINS: holly@johnxxiii.net or call the parish office at 239-561-2245

Fifth Annual
Charity Golf Tournament
Saturday, October 11, 2025

The *Club* at
GATEWAY

12091 Gateway Greens Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33913

- **REGISTRATION: 7AM - 8:30AM**
Coffee & Donuts Provided
- **SHOTGUN START: 8:30AM**
- **LUNCH & AWARDS:**
Following the Tournament
- **FORMAT: 4 Person Scramble**

LUNCH & GOLF: \$135
LUNCH ONLY: \$30



SCAN the QR
code for more
information or
register at:

KC23.org/golf

To Sponsor, Contact:

Larry Evener

219-314-8695

LarryEvener@yahoo.com



DEADLINE: October 3, 2025



Chance to Win
A FREE 2025 MERCEDES C-300
(Hole-in-one prize #7)

Attend the Fifth Annual Charity Golf Outing
that supports 10+ local charities! Hosted by
St. John XXIII Knights of Columbus #13624

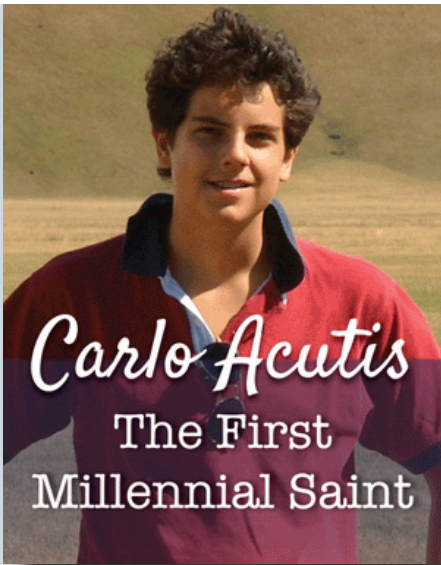
The Club at GATEWAY is voted "Best of Fort
Myers" for the last four years!

For More Information

phone: **(703) 969-8202**

email: **spmsteve@yahoo.com**

website: **www.KC23.org/golf**



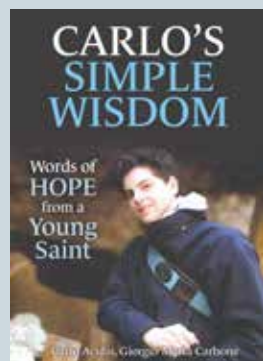
On **September 7**, blessed **CARLO ACUTIS** will be canonized as the first millennial saint, giving the Church a powerful new patron for our times. His joyful witness speaks to young people, families, and all who seek holiness in daily life. Now is the perfect time to share his story with resources that inspire devotion and invite the faithful to follow his example.

To learn more about his life and/or order material from OSV, please visit:

www.orderosv.com/Search?q=carlos+acutis



<https://www.orderosv.com/>



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 for the monthly schedule of Novena of Masses for Life.

Together in Holiness Early Bird Discount: Please register by September 8 to receive special pricing. Couple: \$54, Individual: \$35. The Catholic Marriage Enrichment Conference will be held Saturday, October 18 from 9:00 am to 4:30pm at The Church of Resurrection in Fort Myers. To register, visit: forlifeandfamily.org/form-page-th25-vnfl/ For more information contact Nancy Ariza, Conference Coordinator at **(281) 906-1546** or email nancy@forlifeandfamily.org

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 or call **239-772-3922** for more information. Visit our website: www.standrewcs.org

Catholic Singles Potluck & Social Event: Join us at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Rome Room, on Saturday, September 13 from 6-10 for Catholic fellowship, ages 25-55. For more information, visit: catholicfellowshiparoundnaples.wordpress.com/singles-ministry

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 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/>

Florida Catholic: Receive the free, weekly e-edition of the Florida Catholic delivered directly to your inbox every Friday! Sign up at: <https://dioceseofvenice.org/news/>

Free Mental Health Counseling: Catholic Charities is providing free mental health counseling services. For help or support, please call our staff at (844) 385-2423



NOVEMBER 7-9, 2025

11th Annual Women's Retreat

For more information contact either:

MARY KAZOR
(239) 233-1675
mary.kazor@gmail.com

CATHY ROBERTSTAD
(262) 719-0690
crobertstad@yahoo.com

Hope as an Anchor

PLACE: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center
3989 S. Moon Drive • Venice, FL 34292 (944) 486-0233

DATE: Arrival: Friday, November 7, 2025

Check-in: 3:00pm Welcome Introductions: 4:00pm Dinner: 5:00pm Retreat Begins: 6:30pm
Departure: Sunday, November 9, 2025 by 12:00 Noon

COST: \$360.00 per person (Includes all meals) - All Rooms Double Occupancy

PROGRAM: There will be time for private and communal prayer, brief presentations, quiet reflections, Mass, sharing joyful song and fellowship. An email containing specific details will be sent out prior to the retreat.

PLEASE NOTE: Walking is necessary between buildings at the retreat center.

11th Annual Women's Retreat - Registration Form

NAME _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

EMAIL _____ May we share on the roster? ___Yes___No

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Age: _____ 20-35 _____ 36-50 _____ 51-66 _____ 66 and up

Special Needs, Requests or Roommate Preference: _____

Dietary Restrictions PLEASE NOTE Additional \$45 Cost Per Person: ___Gluten Free ___Dairy Free ___Vegetarian

T-Shirt Size: ___S ___M ___L ___XL ___XXL

SPACES ARE LIMITED. PLEASE RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND FULL PAYMENT.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2025

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. JOHN XXIII AND RETURN
TO PARISH OFFICE OR DROP IN CHURCH COLLECTION BASKET**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Paid \$ _____ Date _____ CK# _____ Cash _____

<p>Mel's DINER breakfast lunch dinner Good Times, Great Food Sunday - Church Day Bring Your Bulletin. \$1.00 Donated For Each Meal to Education Fund 239-275-7850 • Fax: 239-274-3663 www.melsdiners.com 4820 Cleveland Ave. • Ft. Myers</p>	<p>EWTN.COM/RADIO  EWTN Global Catholic Radio TUNE IN</p>	<p>No Image CLEANERS SINCE 1975 8911 Daniels Pkwy., Fort Myers 239-454-2665 3722 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers 239-936-0665 FREE Pick up and Delivery!</p>	<p>State Farm Larry D. Snider, Agent Get a discount up to 50% Call Me Today 239-561-8599 larry.snider.szy5@statefarm.com 12995 S. Cleveland Ave. • Suite 103B Fort Myers, FL 33907 <small>State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL</small> Big Savings for Safe Drivers</p> 
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