



ST. JOHN XXIII Catholic Church

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

October 11, 2026

Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast Day



*"Consult not your fears but your **hopes** and your **dreams**. Think not about your frustrations, but about your **unfulfilled potential**.*

*Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what is **still possible** for you to do."*

- ST. JOHN XXIII

October 11, 2026

**Please Note:
SATURDAY
CONFESSIONS
TAKE PLACE
in the Church
8:30am-9:30am**

**LIVESTREAM 9:15am
MASS on FACEBOOK**



PASTOR

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

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Fr. Jimmy Pham
frjimmy@johnxxiii.net

Fr. Manoj Francis
frfrancis@johnxxiii.net

DEACONS

Deacon Rich Klish
DeaconRich@johnxxiii.net

Deacon John Gaulin
deaconjjpg@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

MISSION STATEMENT: 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, OCTOBER 12

- 8:00 AM † Lillian Gill by Richard Gill
- 12:00 PM † Anthony & Anna Rednak by The Family

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 8:00 AM ♥ Jewella Miranda by Mom
- 6:00 PM † Louis Felice by Vincent & Arlene Felice

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- 8:00 AM † Patricia Clemens by Anonymous
- 12:00 PM † Claire Bush by Judi & Dan Weller

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 8:00 AM † Beverly Carlstrom by Elaine Quinn
- 12:00 PM † Michael Kennedy by JoAnn & Tom Davino

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 8:00 AM ♥ Guillermo & Matthew by The Gagnon Family
- 12:00 PM † Cleto D'Costa by Hazel Kieta

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 8:00 AM † JoAnne Strage by husband, Richard Strage
- 4:00 PM ♥ Parishioners of St. John XXIII

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 - WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

- 7:15 AM ♥/† Lattner & Hermann Families by Amy Shea
- 9:15 AM † William J. Becker by his wife, Lois
- 11:15 PM † Bob Tuffy by His Family
- 1:30 PM † Jorge Enrique Barboza by The Barboza Family
- 5:00 PM † Peter - Vietnamese Mass

******* MASS INTENTIONS UPDATE *******

(The 2027 Mass book is NOW open for Masses within the FIRST SIX MONTHS of 2027) Each registered family may request four Masses (2 weekend & 2 weekday) per calendar year. Unannounced Masses are available to everyone are said privately by a DOV priest. Mass donations are \$10 each. - *Thank You*

OCTOBER 18, 2026 - SUNDAY READINGS

- 1ST READING ISAIAH 45:1, 4-6
- PSALM PSALM 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10
- 2ND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-5B
- GOSPEL MATTHEW 22:15-21

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, October 12 - Columbus Day

St. John XXIII Thrift Store: CLOSED

**The St. Luke Adoration Chapel will be open
8:30am - 6:00pm with overnight hours.**

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

Receptionist

Theresa Durda
theresa@johnxxiii.net
239-561-2245

Bookkeeper

Ana Thompson
ana@johnxxiii.net
239-561-7499

Dir. of Religious Education

Frannie Cerniglia
frannedre@johnxxiii.net
239-561-7499

Faith Formation Assistant

Paula Froio
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239-561-7499

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239-561-2245

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Bethany Myers
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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

Cindy (CJ) Thomas
thrifft@johnxxiii.net
239-433-4097
15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110
Ft. Myers, FL 33908

PLC Coordinator

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



Celebrate

Celebrating the Feast of ST. JOHN XXIII

Sunday, October 11, 2026

ABOUT ST. JOHN XXIII

Although few people had as great an impact on the 20th century as Pope John XXIII, he avoided the limelight as much as possible. Indeed, one writer has noted that his “ordinariness” seems one of his most remarkable qualities.

The firstborn son of a farming family in Sotto il Monte, near Bergamo in northern Italy, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was always proud of his down-to-earth roots. In Bergamo’s diocesan seminary, he joined the Secular Franciscan Order.

After his ordination in 1904, Fr. Roncalli returned to Rome for canon law studies. He soon worked as his bishop’s secretary, Church history teacher in the seminary, and as publisher of the diocesan paper.

His service as a stretcher-bearer for the Italian army during World War I gave him a firsthand knowledge of war. In 1921, Fr. Roncalli was made national director in Italy of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He also found time to teach patristics at a seminary in the Eternal City.

In 1925, he became a papal diplomat, serving first in Bulgaria, then in Turkey, and finally in France. During World War II, he became well acquainted with Orthodox Church leaders. With the help of Germany’s ambassador to Turkey, Archbishop Roncalli helped save an estimated 24,000 Jewish people.

Named a cardinal and appointed patriarch of Venice in 1953, he was finally a residential bishop. A month short of entering his 78th year, Cardinal Roncalli was elected pope, taking the name John after his father and the two patrons of Rome’s cathedral, St. John Lateran. Pope John took his work very seriously but not himself. His wit soon became proverbial, and he began meeting with political and religious leaders from around the world. In 1962, he was deeply involved in efforts to resolve the Cuban missile crisis.

His most famous encyclicals were *Mother and Teacher* (1961) and *Peace on Earth* (1963). Pope John XXIII enlarged the membership in the College of Cardinals and made it more international. At his address at the opening of the Second Vatican Council, he criticized the “prophets of doom” who “in these modern times see nothing but prevarication and ruin.” Pope John XXIII set a tone for the Council when he said, “The Church has always opposed... errors. Nowadays, however, the Spouse of Christ prefers to make use of the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity.”

On his deathbed, Pope John said: “It is not that the gospel has changed; it is that we have begun to understand it better. Those who have lived as long as I have...were enabled to compare different cultures and traditions, and know that the moment has come to discern the signs of the times, to seize the opportunity and to look far ahead.”

“Good Pope John” died on June 3, 1963. Saint John Paul II beatified him in 2000, and Pope Francis canonized him in 2014.

PRAYER FOR

ST. JOHN XXIII

*Almighty God, whose
will it is to heal all
division and discord
among those who call
upon the name of Your
Son: We thank You for
the good will shown in
Your servant John, and
we pray that we may
always be ready to hear
our fellow Christians
with humility and a
willingness to learn
and may also speak
the truth in love to the
healing of faction and
the renewed witness of
Your people through
Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who lives and reigns
with You in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.*

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
Braden O'Halloran
Pat & Steve Lane
Cynthia & William
Sandy Szymanski
Ben Dryden
Carol Quid
Judy Clough
Dan Dugan
William Stevenson III
James Rode
Gerard McHale
Penny Messina
Brian Collins

Debra Reifschneider
Lynn Palen
Pat Klimka
Tom C.
Lori Cullen
Carol Hahn
Michael Horgan
Joyce Pfeil
Clare DeCosmo
David Ell
Cheryl & Frank
Christine Fusco
Jane Sweeney
Priscilla Lynch
Bob Olson

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 ep prayer.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!

- Margaret "Peggy" Unglaub
- Ryan Davalos
- Beverly Loo
- Wilhelm Wittmann
- Thomas Hanley



Tabernacle Candle

In Memory of: **Janine Hamlin**

Requested by: **Gloria & Carl Larson**



Thoughts
and
prayers

Fr. Jay will be in India visiting his family. He will return the 1st weekend of November. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.



Weekly Calendar

PLC = PARISH LIFE CENTER
OCR = OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM



Monday, October 12 - Columbus Day

- Parish Office/Thrift Store Closed
- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Men's Gospel Forum: PLC/St. Martha/St. Mary - 7am
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am - 6pm with overnight hours
- Confession: 11:15am/Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Craftie Ladies: St. John XXIII Villas - 1pm
- Soul Core Class: PLC/St. Elizabeth - 6pm
- KofC Monthly Meeting: PLC/St. Martha/St. Mary - 7pm

Tuesday, October 13

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am - 6pm with overnight hours
- Opening the Word: Zoom/PLC/St. Martha - 9am
- Soul Core Class: PLC/St. Elizabeth - 9am
- Bereavement: PLC/St. Michael - 1:30pm
- Bingo: PLC/Doors open at 5:30pm/Games at 6:30pm
- Confession: 5:15pm/Mass: 6pm - Chapel
- Adoration & Benediction: Chapel - 6:30pm
- AA Meeting: PLC/St. Martha & St. Mary - 7pm
- Hispanic Charismatic Prayer Group: Chapel - 7pm

Wednesday, October 14

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am-3:45pm/overnight hours at 8pm
- Pastoral Staff Meeting: OCR - 10am
- Confession: 11:15am/Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Faith Formation Session 1: Main Hall/Classrooms - 4:15pm
- Sisters of Strength Bible Study (High School): OCR - 6:15pm
- Faith Formation Session 2: Main Hall/Classrooms - 6:15pm
- MS Youth Group: Narthex/Youth Pavilion - 6:15pm
- Blaze Bible Study (Middle School): OCR - 7:30pm

Thursday, October 15

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am - 6pm with overnight hours
- Confession: 11:15am/Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Handbell Rehearsal: Narthex - 5:30pm
- Choir Rehearsal: Church - 6:30pm
- Catholic Faith Workshop: PLC/St. Christina - 6:30pm
- Rooted Ages 18-35: PLC/Martha/Mary - 7pm

Friday, October 16

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am - 6pm with overnight hours
- Confession: 11:15am/Mass: 12pm - Chapel
- Friday Night Praise & Worship: Rosary Chapel - 6pm
- Youth/Teen Movie Night: Youth Pavilion - 7pm
- Beginners Back to Basics (AA): PLC/St. Michael - 7pm
- Vietnamese Choir Rehearsal: Church - 8pm

Saturday, October 17

- Rosary - 7:15am/Daily Mass: Chapel - 8am
- Confessions after the 8am Mass
- Adoration Chapel: 8:30am - 6pm with overnight hours
- Women's Guild Bake Sale: Narthex
- KofC Food Drive: Parking Lot - 10am-1pm
- Men's Retreat: Main Hall - 10am (followed by Mass)
- Spanish Baptism Class: PLC/ St. Elizabeth - 10:30am
- Vigil Mass: Church - 4pm
- Trunk or Treat: Outside/Main Hall - 5pm - 8pm

Sunday, October 18 - World Mission Sunday

- Adoration Chapel: closed 7am-6pm/overnight hours at 6pm
- 7:15am, **NOTE: 9:15am* Livestreamed** & 11:15am
- Contemporary Mass at the 9:15am Mass
- Women's Guild Bake Sale: Narthex
- Pre-School Bible Class: PLC/St. Susanna - 9:30am
- HSYG Gospel Talk 4 Teens: PLC/St. Theresa - 10:15am
- OCIA Meeting: PLC/Martha/Mary/Bernadette - 10:30am
- Choir Rehearsal: Church - 10:30pm
- Spanish Mass: Church - 1:30pm
- Carmelite Meeting: PLC/ Martha/Mary - 1:30pm
- Vietnamese Mass: Church - 5pm



WELCOME

New Parishioners

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Andrea Gutierrez | • Richard & Ann Marie Sousa |
| • Yesly Gutierrez | • Juan Buitrago & Claudia Conde |
| • Angelina Grassano | • Brian & Kelly Getaci |
| • Jere Marvin | • Joe & Jill Padera |
| • Amy Avila | • Ivan & Claudia Cuna |
| • Toni Granchi | • Jason Bergstrom & Kim Dam |
| • Ed Murray | • Dennis Cao & Julie Ngo |
| • Teresa Ruiz | • Dennis & Suzanne Skelly |
| • Marisol Martinez | • Rebecca & Sawyer Bradley |
| • Jonathan Galba | • Dennis Cao & Julie Ngo |
| • Catty Garcia | • Quentin & Silvana Maynard |
| • Tyler Otero | • Vu & Yen Pham |
| • Melissa Cressman | • John & Jen Ferrari |
| • Valerie Valero | • Joseph & JoAnn Cali |

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, December 6, 2026 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

PRAYERS FOR

Our Military Personnel

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

Living Our CATHOLIC LIFE

Adult Workshops

with: **MIKE REESE**

Beginning

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

6:00PM - 8:00PM

in the Parish Life Center

Continuing the Journey:

- Picking up from OCIA (The Dignity of Life, The Incarnation & Trinity, Holy Week, Conversion, etc: Topics not covered, time constraints, in the previous years)

The Sacraments & Mass:

- Unpacking Catholic worship, Eucharistic postures, and sacred traditions.

Catholic Moral Teaching & History:

- Navigating modern ethical questions through 2,000 years of Church wisdom.

Prayer & Discipleship:

- Building practical tools for daily mental prayer, family life, and evangelization.

Open Discussion:

- A warm, welcoming setting dedicated to asking questions, sharing personal reflections, and community fellowship. Each participant will have opportunity to chart the course.

SIGN UP NOW!

For more information, contact **Bonnie Kreft**
at brkreft@gmail.com or call **(239) 768-7031**



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

PARISH LIFE CENTER

Doors open at 5:30pm

Games begin at 6:30pm

- *Must be 21 to Play*
- *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.*



THANK YOU!

\$1,800 of the September Bingo proceeds were distributed to **Pennies for Babies**.



FOOD

COLLECTION

church parking lot

NON-PERISHABLE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

10AM-1PM



PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES

A LETTER FROM

Bishop Emilio

World Mission Sunday

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We will celebrate World Mission Sunday on October 18, 2026, Catholics throughout the world unite in prayer and generous sacrifice to support the Church's missionary work and the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday. Pope Leo XIV has chosen the theme, **"One in Christ, united in mission."** As members of one Body in Christ, we are called to share the Gospel and support the Church's mission throughout the world.

The World Mission Sunday Collection in the Diocese of Venice in Florida will take place on **the weekend of October 17 & 18, 2026**. Your generosity supports mission territories through the formation of seminarians and religious sisters, churches, schools, healthcare, and pastoral programs.

Thank you for your continued generosity and prayers in support of the Church's missionary mission.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Emilio Biosca* o/p

+ Emilio Biosca, O.F.M. Cap.
Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

ST. JOHN XXIII THRIFT store



FALL EVERYDAY

SALE

Fall in Florida means Halloween, cooler temperatures and a mandatory visit to St. John XXIII Thrift Store for ready-made costumes and clever props for designing your own! Grab a throw blanket for the couch and a couple of mugs for a warm pumpkin spice drink. The store is loaded with unique items for your autumn home and Thanksgiving table.

Support Your Store and Our Mission
EVERYDAY IS SALE DAY AT THE STORE

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

Address: 15200 S. Tamiami Trail #110, Ft. Myers, FL
Store Manager, CJ Thomas: thrift@johnxxiii.net

Women's Guild



OCTOBER 17-18

The Bake Sale will take place in the Narthex before and after all Masses the weekend of **October 17 and October 18**. **ALL BAKED GOODS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

Donations may be dropped off in the Narthex from **2:00pm-4:00pm on Friday, October 16 or at any Masses**.

Proceeds from the bake sale will go towards the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Thank you for your continued kind generosity!

For more Information contact:

BARBARA ARTALE
baagrammy322@gmail.com



TRUNK or TREAT

Saturday, October 17



Timeline

5:00PM: Parking lot opens for cars to begin decorating!

6:00PM - 7:00PM: The Knights of Columbus will be serving hot dogs and chips on the St. Patrick Patio.

6:10PM: Parking lot closes for all moving vehicles.

6:30PM - 7:30: Trunk or Treat begins following a blessing which will take place in front of the DJ booth.

7:30PM: Winners will be announced by DJ Steve Gallo.

Details

- Decorating your car? You will enter and exit the event area from the far south drive off Palomino. Park only in a number spot. No cars are permitted after 6:10pm. You will be given a number that needs to be displayed on the back of your vehicle.
- Decorating Contest! Make sure to vote for your favorite decorated vehicle. To do so, go to the judging table, write down the number of your favorite decorated vehicle, and place it in the container. One vote per attendee.
- Need more candy? Our youth volunteers will replenish your stash. DO NOT HAND OUT CANDY UNTIL AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER at 6:30pm.
- If you are NOT decorating your car, park in the lot North of PLC or in front of the church. Please bring a bag of candy to share and drop off at the candy donation table. NO TREATING ALLOWED UNTIL AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER at 6:30pm.
- DJ Steve's Halloween DANCE PARTY! Come boot scoot boogie, electric slide on over, and Congo line into the evening with the fun sounds of DJ Steve.

CANDY DONATIONS MAY BE DROPPED OFF IN THE NARTHEX

**FRIDAY
NIGHT**

Praise & Worship

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
6pm - Rosary Chapel**

We are offering a new monthly Friday Night Praise & Worship beginning **October 16** at 6pm in the Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel.

Come and join us as we gather for adoration with benediction, praise and worship, and confession. Following Friday Night Praise & Worship, the Faith in Action Team will host Movie Night in the Youth Pavilion at 7pm.

If you have any questions, or would like to join the worship team, please contact **Gaby** at gabriela@gabrielafrei.com

Faith in Action TEAM

**MOVIE
NIGHT**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
7pm - Youth Pavillion**

The Fiat Youth Team hosts Movie Night on **Friday, October 16** in the Youth Pavilion immediately following the new Friday Night Praise & Worship. Join us at 7pm and enjoy a movie, popcorn and s'mores! *Please bring a beach chair or blanket.*

All Are Welcome

MASS WITH CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
IN THE CHURCH
at the 9:15am Mass**

*All ages are invited to join our next **Contemporary Mass on Sunday, October 18 at the 9:15am Mass in the Church.***

Music will be uplifting praise and worship songs played by our modern ensemble and is accessible through your smart phone. (QR code below)

If you would like to be involved as a musician or singer for a future Mass, please contact:

Gaby Frei
gabriela@gabrielafrei.com

OR

John Renfro
musicdirector@johnxxiii.net



FR. MANOJ B. FRANCIS, MCBS

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

St. John XXIII Catholic Church is proud to introduce **Fr. Francis** to the Parish Team! We look forward to experience his faith and commitment to the Parish!
frfrancis@johnxxiii.net

About Fr. Francis

Fr. Manoj B. Francis, MCBS, is a missionary priest of the Missionary Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, hailing from the lush and faith-filled state of Kerala, India. Ordained on 25th April 2006, his priesthood has been marked by a deep love for the Eucharist and an unceasing passion for mission.

His early years of ministry took him to Mumbai, followed by two formative years in the challenging terrains of Rajasthan, North India. Drawn ever further to the peripheries, Fr. Francis then spent a decade in the Northeast of India, Arunachal Pradesh, working with remote tribal communities, learning their languages, sharing their struggles, and discovering Christ alive in simplicity, resilience, and joy. These years shaped his adventurous missionary spirit and deepened his conviction that the Gospel is best preached through presence, compassion, and accompaniment.

Fr. Francis graduated from studies in Clinical Psychology, to cater to the needs of pastoral demands. He was sent as a missionary priest to Tanzania in Africa, cherishing his mission among the poor, the sick, the elderly, and differently abled children. His priestly life has consistently blended faith with action, prayer with service, and joy with sacrifice—true to his personal missionary motto: Joyful Mission.

For the last 8 months, Fr. Francis served at St. Andrew's and St. Katherine Drexel Parishes as the Parochial Vicar in our Diocese of Venice. He has planned his vacation to India to visit his family until the first week of November.

We welcome Fr. Francis to the St. John XXIII Parish Team!





ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

Weekly Financials



	10-04-26	10-05-25	Difference
Offertory	\$37,861.43	\$38,413.07	(\$551.64)
Building Fund	\$1,433.90	\$1,682.00	(\$248.10)
Total	\$39,295.33	\$40,095.07	(\$799.74)
Mass Attendance	2744	2937	
Registered Families	3980	3839	

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

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

2026 Catholic Faith Appeal

2026 Goal	\$512,000.00
Pledge	\$403,150.69
Payments	\$379,273.30

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 residuum 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



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL



\$3,000,000



\$2,500,000

\$2,000,000

\$1,500,000

\$1,000,000

\$500,000

\$2,194,343.18
10-4-26

Help us reach our Capital Campaign \$3,000,000 goal. Funds collected go towards renovations and repairs to the church.

PLEASE NOTE ENVELOPES BELOW

The Capital Campaign envelope is for renovations and repairs to the church. Funds are not assessed for 2026.



The green envelope is for basic maintenance to the church. Funds are assessed.

ST. JOHN XXIII
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Thank you for your continued generosity!

BUILDING FUND

ST. JOHN XXIII PARISH



- ☐ This is a payment towards pledge fulfillment
- ☐ This is NOT a pledge payment - Contribution only

Amount: \$



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

MEN'S RETREAT 2026

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



THEME: *The Eucharist*



COST
\$15

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

9:00am to 4:00pm - PLC Main Hall
followed by Mass at 4:00pm in the PLC

- 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 October 12.***
- 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 2026



THEME: *The Eucharist*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

9:00am to 4:00pm - PLC Main Hall

Cost \$15 - Register by October 12

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 **mjreese32@gmail.com***



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:
Sue Ammon at (239) 229-1193

Welcome to Participate!
Reflection QUESTIONS

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

Below are the next session reflections:

10/11 - The Bible

The Catholic approach to interpreting the Bible includes Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium alongside Scripture itself. What questions does this raise for you, and what did you find most surprising about this approach?

10/18 - The Mass

If you have worshipped in another tradition, how does the Catholic celebration of the Mass compare to what you experienced there? What do you find most different - and what is your reaction to that difference?

CHURCH SLIDES

We would like to thank **Aimee Monteiro** who creates our slides each week for the projection of prayers and songs on our screens. She does this as her ministry and we are very thankful. We need more people to help this ministry and it is very easy to do. Please see anyone in the ushers room that is running the slides.



**WE NEED
YOU!**

ATTENTION ALL
***Engaged AND
Married***
COUPLES

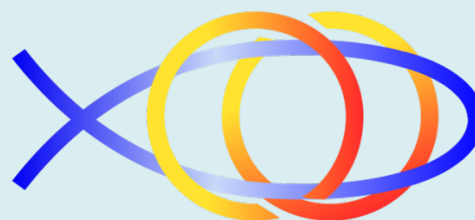
PIZZA and
Information Night

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
7:00PM**

Fr. Cafferel ALWAYS reminded couples,
"A Marriage without Prayer Withers"

You are invited to Pizza and Information Night to learn about the International Movement: Teams of Our Lady (A prayer and fellowship group for Catholic Engaged and Married couples).

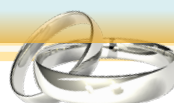
EMAIL John and Linda at jjlinstan@aol.com for our address. **RSVP** by **October 15**



Teams of Our Lady

***We are looking
forward to
seeing both
of you. May
God Bless your
marriage.***

- Linda & John Stankiewicz



ANGEL TREE

2026 GIFT/FOOD REQUESTS

ANGEL TREES will be put up in the Narthex on Friday, November 13, 2026

GIFT RETURN DEADLINE will be Friday, December 4, 2026 (*more details to follow*)

If you're not a shopper, you may wish to make a Monetary Donation:

- Make check payable to SJXXIII Church (note: "Angel Tree" in the Memo Portion)
- Drop check in the offertory basket at Mass (or mail it to: St. John XXIII Church 13060 Palomino Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33912)

Or consider sponsoring a family:

Contact sgedwards007@gmail.com to request the size family you wish to sponsor.

Parish Families in need of help are invited to complete and return this request form below.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT: Must be a Registered Parishioner with Regular Mass Attendance

ST. JOHN XXIII - 2026 HOLIDAY GIFT and FOOD REQUEST FORM

DEADLINE for RECEIPT of FORM: OCTOBER 31, 2026 **EMAIL TO: sgedwards007@gmail.com**

PARENT NAME

Last: _____

First: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: _____

Email: _____

GIFT REQUEST for CHILDREN

Child's First Name	Age	Gender	SUGGESTED GIFT (<i>If Clothing, state Size</i>)

FOOD REQUESTS (*Please check ALL that apply*):

_____ **Thanksgiving Food:** Pick-up at Parish Life Center on **Monday, November 23, 2026** from 1-3pm

_____ **Christmas Food:** Pick-up at Parish Life Center on **Monday, December 21, 2026** from 1-3pm

_____ **Total Number of Family Members for FOOD**

ALL REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 2026

REGISTER
BY
OCT. 19



NOVEMBER 13, 14, 15, 2026

12th Annual Women's Retreat

For more information contact:

ELIZABETH ANDREWS

(734)552-4560 • Elipchik@hotmail.com

Rowing to Sailing

— With the Holy Spirit —

PLACE: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center

3989 S. Moon Drive • Venice, FL 34292 (944) 486-0233

DATE: Arrival: Friday, November 13, 2026

Check-in: 3:00pm Welcome Introductions: 4:00pm Dinner: 5:00pm Retreat Begins: 6:30pm

Departure: Sunday, November 15, 2026 by 12:00 Noon

COST: \$330.00 per person (includes all meals) All rooms are 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.

The water issues we had last year have been fixed!

12TH 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 \$30 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 19, 2026

Please make checks payable to: ST. JOHN XXIII and return to the parish office or drop in the collection basket.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Paid \$ _____

Date _____

CK# _____

Cash _____

RESPECT
LIFE
MONTH



Mary, MOTHER OF LIFE



40 DAYS FOR LIFE Vigil Hours

THROUGH NOVEMBER 1

8:45AM - 11:00AM



40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. The 40 day fall campaign runs through November 1.

Vigil Location: **PLANNED PARENTHOOD**
6418 Commerce Park Drive, Ft. Myers, FL

Parishioners from St. John XXIII have been asked to help cover the hours every Wednesday from 8:45am to 11:00am.

For more information, contact **Paula Hellenbrand** at paula@encorerealty.com or call (239) 770-4722

respect • love • protect

www.40DaysforLife.com/FortMyers



Magnificat

A Ministry to Catholic Women

You Are Invited!

OCTOBER 24 • 9:30am-12:30pm

Be Blessed and Encouraged at our next Magnificat breakfast for women, **Saturday, October 24**, from **9:30am-12:30pm** at the Crown Plaza Fort Myers Gulf Coast, with speaker, **FATHER SHAWN ROSER**

MAIL PAYMENT:

Please send a **\$30 check**, payable to Magnificat Fort Myers, to Margaret Mengle, 5017 Westminster Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33919. *Your mail request must be postmarked by Friday, October 16.*

ORDER ONLINE:

magnificatfortmyers.com/order-tickets/
Reservations may be made online until 12pm (NOON), **Tuesday, October 20, 2026**

CONTACT:

Margaret Mengle at (239) 826-7475



faith & ale

a gathering of catholic men

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 - 6:30PM

ST. LEO THE GREAT

\$10 DONATION

Please register online:
www.faithandale.com

Guest Speaker:

REV. ERIC SCANLAN

*"Deliver us from Evil: Christ's Victory
in Spiritual Warfare"*



COME *Celebrate Thanksgiving* WITH US!

Thanksgiving Day • November 26, 2026 • PLC Doors open at 10:00am • Dinner at 12:00pm

NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO SPEND THANKSGIVING ALONE!

If you are single, or a couple looking to celebrate in a warm and welcoming place, then we invite you to join us for a special Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner in the Parish Life Center.

Come enjoy good food, friendly company, and the gift of celebrating together as a parish family.

Dinner will be served at 12:00pm (noon) and will include: Turkey, Dressing, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy. ***Please bring a vegetable or dessert to share.***

To help us provide a wonderful variety of dishes, please call the parish office and let us know what you plan to bring. We will keep a list of the dishes.

Come Early and Enjoy the Day! Doors open at 10:00am.

Come early, relax, visit with others, play cards, or bring a favorite board game to enjoy while dinner is being prepared.



**PLEASE
BRING A
VEGETABLE
OR DESSERT
TO SHARE**



SPACE IS LIMITED. We can accommodate up to **100 GUESTS**, so please register early.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: November 16, 2026

Please return the registration form below in the collection basket or to the parish office.

Thanksgiving Dinner **REGISTRATION**

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ Number Attending (Maximum 4) _____

Please call **239-561-2245** or email **Viviana** at **Viviana@johnxxiii.net** in the parish office to let us know what food you will be bringing.



ST. JOHN XXIII
Catholic Church

We look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with you!
COME AS YOU ARE. CELEBRATE AS FAMILY.