



# 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)

## WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR BRINGING YOU TO US

With Thanksgiving upon us, our hearts overflow with thankfulness.  
Thank you, parishioners for your gracious love and support  
that allows us to serve so many.

As we give thanks and praises to God in heaven above,  
may your heart be filled with joy and your life be filled with love.

God's peace,  
St. John XXIII Pastoral Staff



*"Whatever you do in the word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks through Him to God the father."*

*- Colossians 3:17*

**November 22, 2014**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Daily Masses:**

Monday-Saturday, 8:00 am  
Rosary-7:30 am (Mon.-Sat.)  
Divine Mercy after 8 am Mass

**Weekend Masses:**

**Saturday** Mass, 4:00 pm  
Vietnamese Mass 8:00 pm  
**Sunday**, 7:15 am, 9:15 am,  
11:15 am  
Spanish Mass: 1:15 pm first  
Sunday each month

**Reconciliation:**

Saturday after 8:00 am Mass

**First Friday Adoration:**

Friday 8:30-9:00 am

**Pastor**

**Rev. Robert Tabbert**  
FrBob@johnxxiii.net

**Parochial Vicars**

**Rev. Marcin Koziola**  
MKoziola@johnxxiii.net  
**Rev. John Cao CMC**  
Frcao@johnxxiii.net

**Deacon**

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

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Friday,  
8:00 am-Noon | 1:00-4:00 pm  
239-561-2245

**New Masses!**

Starting January 3rd and 4th of 2015, we will have two Masses on Saturday, 3:30 and 5:30 pm. The additions will run through March 28th and 29th, Palm Sunday Weekend. We will also be adding a Sunday 5:00 pm Mass during the same time.

*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**

**Saturday, November 22nd**

8:00 AM +Joseph McLaughlin by Pat McLaughlin  
4:00 PM +Philip LaPorte by Angela  
8:00PM Parishioners of St. John XXIII

**Sunday, November 23rd**

7:15 AM +Lisa Coole by Bill & Nancy Coole  
9:15 AM +John Lynch by Ray & Pat Shepard  
11:15 AM +Donald Wirt by his family

**Monday, November 24th**

8:00 AM +Bill Dadio by Betty Dadio

**Tuesday, November 25th**

8:00 AM +Robert E. Slota, Jr. by his parents

**Wednesday, November 26th**

8:00 AM +Joe Villa by Judy & Paul Cook

**Thursday, November 27th**

9:00 AM Parishioners of St. John XXIII

**Friday, November 28th**

8:00 AM King Tse by his family

**Saturday, November 29th**

8:00 AM +Tommy Lossia by Joyce Froney  
4:00 PM +Marilyn Stolarick by Mary Ellen & Victor Ludmerer  
8:00PM Parishioners of St. John XXIII

**Sunday, November 30th**

7:15 AM +Jason Hermann by Clare Mannion & Tom Mc Menomen  
9:15 AM +Ed Eddy by Ray & Pat Shepard  
11:15 AM +Florence Marshall by her family

**PLEASE NOTE**

**The 2015 Mass Book is open Jan. through June. Because of our growing population, Mass requests will be limited to 8 per year (only one at 4 PM). Other options available are: Tabernacle Candle, Missal Memorial, Mother's Day, Father's Day and All Souls envelopes.**

**Pastoral Team**

**Business Manager**

**Holly Atkins**  
holly@johnxxiii.net

**Communications**

**Danielle Koleniak**  
danielle@johnxxiii.net

**Maintenance**

**Supervisor**  
**Rob Erp**

**Dir. of Faith Formation**

**Chris Biel**  
chrisdre@johnxxiii.net  
239-561-7499

**Bookkeeper**

**Ana Thompson**  
ana@johnxxiii.net

**Coordinator of Parishioner Engagement**

**Jennifer Engelman**  
jennifer@johnxxiii.net

**Director of Music Ministries**

**Robert Kirchner**  
keymaster@johnxxiii.net

**Thrift Store Manager**

**Cynthia Conzatti**  
john23thrift@gmail.com  
239-433-4097  
15200 S. Tamiami Trail  
Fort Myers, FL 33908

**Part-Time**

**Receptionist**

**MaryAnn Deas**  
maryann@johnxxiii.net

**Faith Formation Asst.**

**Brenda Gregory**  
brenda@johnxxiii.net

**Admin. Assistant**

**Barbara Lange**  
blange@johnxxiii.net

**Youth Ministers**

**Meghan & Aaron McCarthy**  
meghan@johnxxiii.net

*Looking for  
volunteers.*

We will be changing out all the hymnals on Wednesday, November 26 at 8:30 (following Mass). Your help would be appreciated to make this a quick project!



November 22, 2014

## PARISH CALENDAR

### ■ Saturday, November 22

Craftie Ladies selling items in Narthex  
Thanksgiving Food Collection  
Dementia Awareness 9:00-11:00am  
Prayer Walk/ Abortion Clinic 9:15am  
Anointing of the sick 5:00pm (Following Mass)

### ■ Sunday, November 23

Hospitality Sunday  
Craftie Ladies selling items in Narthex  
Thanksgiving Food Collection  
Anointing of the sick after all Masses  
Vietnamese Celebrate Martyrs 2:00-9:00pm (Mass at 3:00pm)  
HS Youth Group off-campus 6:30-8:00pm

### ■ Monday, November 24

Men's Gospel Forum 7:00am  
Craftie Ladies at the Villas 1:00pm  
Women's Guild/ CCR 6:30-8:30pm  
Journey to Hope 6:00-8:00pm

### ■ Tuesday, November 25

Symbolon #5 9:00am  
Bereavement 1:00-3:00pm  
Spanish Rosary 6:00pm  
Boy Scouts at the Villas 7:00pm

### ■ Wednesday, November 26

No Faith Formation- Thanksgiving Break  
Change out Hymnals after Mass

### ■ Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day- Office Closed  
Thanksgiving Day Mass 9:00am

### ■ Friday, November 28

Office Closed

### ■ Saturday, November 29

Angel Tree Collection  
Vietnamese Mass 8:00pm

### ■ Sunday, November 30

Angel Tree Collection  
Blood Mobile 7:30-1:00pm

## WE NEED YOUR INPUT: BUILDING OUR LEGACY

It is an exciting time at St. John XXIII as we begin to discern and plan for our future. As recommended by the Diocese of Venice, we retained the services of Lynch Development Associates, a Catholic Development Consulting Firm, to aid us in evaluating our efforts. We invite you to participate in a confidential feasibility study. Please check your mailboxes for the case statement and complete the questionnaire by December 12, 2014. If you would like to complete the questionnaire online, contact the parish office for a personalized access code. Thank you in advance for your input, assistance, and willingness to participate in this very important and historical time in our parish!

### St. John XXIII Catholic Church

#### "BUILDING OUR LEGACY"

As we celebrate our 12<sup>th</sup> year as a parish, we give thanks to God for His grace and abundant blessings. Since our earliest days, we continue to expand and flourish. We gratefully acknowledge our past and our present by building for our future. To further develop this holy ground for our Catholic Community on its spiritual journey through life, we would like to embark on the construction of a Parish Life Center- a facility to accommodate all of our parishioners.

#### PROPOSED PARISH LIFE CENTER

##### Parish Community Hall

The construction of a Parish Community Hall will provide our parish community the opportunity to host numerous social, spiritual and ministerial events which are critical to our growth as a family of faith. A large gathering hall would make it possible to gather our community together for Parish Retreats, missions, concerts, spaghetti dinners and many more activities. Critical to the construction of this hall would be the addition of a Commercial Kitchen. Finally, our parish will be able to host virtually any social activity with refreshments and food as well as expand our ability to serve the needy.

##### Multi-Purpose Classrooms/ Meeting Rooms

Our present accommodations for Faith Formation consist of rolling dividers that create a temporary classroom space for learning. It is our hope to create a more permanent educational learning environment by creating multipurpose classroom/meeting rooms. These rooms will also provide much needed meeting space to serve the dozens of ministry programs in our growing parish.

##### Courtyard

God has blessed us with wonderful weather here in Ft. Myers! In this plan, we wish to create a courtyard between the Church and Parish Life Center where parishioners can come to "be outside" while still at home in their parish. This courtyard can also be an outdoor gathering area to host parish receptions, small group gatherings, prayer activities and more. A wonderful way to give Glory to God for the blessing of nature!

##### Nursery and Youth Room

While it is always important to engage and involve the adult community of our parish, our plan also wishes to meet the needs of younger members of our parish community. A new Nursery and Youth room opens our hearts to the very young in the community as we nurture their faith and welcome them as the future of our parish.

##### Choir Rehearsal Room:

Our choir is a critical part of our liturgical experience as we celebrate the Eucharist each Sunday. So many members of our parish give graciously of their time and their talents to enhance our worship and fill our Church with song. A rehearsal room would provide a space where the choir can continue to practice, to work together and to continuously improve our liturgies. Welcoming new members would be an additional asset to this aspect of the project.

##### Parish Administrative Offices:

Our parish is blessed with dedicated staff members who diligently support and implement the operations of our parish community. Our present administrative space is already inadequate for the present staff. In the campaign effort, we wish to be able to provide a positive work space for our current staff as well as to strategically prepare for our future.

##### Additional Parking

The addition of the new Parish Life Center will require an expansion of our present parking. This new parking area will provide parking spaces for parishioners for larger social events, ministry activities and also for liturgies during the high season

##### Stewarding God's creation with an Environmentally-friendly design

To ensure that we are good stewards of God's creation, our new space will feature "green" elements. This will also help save on long-term maintenance and operational costs.

New construction of the Parish Life Center is an opportunity to utilize the latest technology and building methods to produce a structure that is ecologically sustainable.

We are grateful that God has made us responsible stewards!!!

#### ACHIEVING OUR VISION

In accordance with diocesan policy, it is our goal as a parish family to raise \$4.0-4.5 million over the next three years. The overall estimated cost of the Parish Life Center is \$6.0 million. The parish will mortgage the remaining balance. **Our parish goal and estimated project costs will not be finalized until the results of the feasibility study are complete.**

ESTIMATED CAPITAL COST RANGE: \$4-4.5 MILLION DOLLARS



## This week in Faith Formation

Contact **Chris Biel** | 561-7499 | [chrisdre@johnxxiii.net](mailto:chrisdre@johnxxiii.net)  
**This week in Faith Formation:**

**Wednesday November 26:** NO Faith Formation and Middle School classes; Thanksgiving break.

**Faith Formation resumes on Wednesday December 3**

**December 24 Christmas Eve Liturgy 4PM—Children's Pageant**

**Thank you to all who participated in the annual Thanksgiving food drive. The children raised \$150.00 and brought in food to feed many families in need.**



**Children's Liturgy of the Word** is a program for children ages 4 to 10 that takes place each Sunday during the 9:15 & 11:15 Masses. After the opening prayer, the children along with their Catechist move to the chapel to hear and discuss the Sunday readings at a level they will understand. At the offertory the children return to the assembly for the remainder of the Mass. There is no registration required for Children's Liturgy of the Word. While we want this to be a fun and engaging time for the children, they are expected to behave in an appropriate manner respectful to adults and to God's House. Please talk to your child about this before having them attend Children's Liturgy of the Word. Because this is a guided lesson, we ask that children younger than age 4 do not attend. If you would like more information, or to be a part of this program, **please contact Chris Biel at 561-7499.**

**Baptism:** Congratulations on your decision to baptize your child! At Saint John XXIII we are happy to help your family prepare for the celebration. Baptisms are offered for registered members of Saint John XXIII 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 the office at 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. Contact Chris at 561-7499 for more information or to begin the process. Parents who home school their children must contact the office during Year I.

**Confirmation Preparation** to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation is also a two year process that now begins at the start of 9th Grade and is celebrated at the end of 10th grade. (Older teens are certainly welcome also!). 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.

## General Announcements

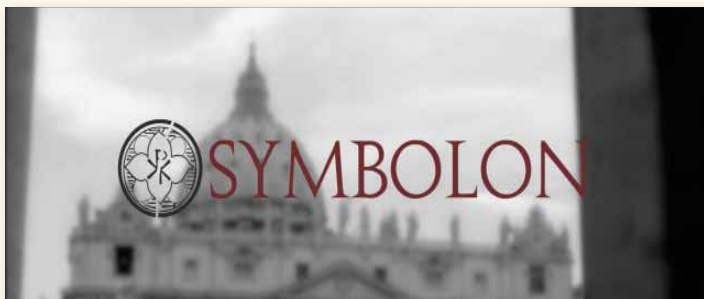
- **Have you listened to our NEW podcasts?** Listen to inspirational messages from Father Bob and homilies from Mass. Visit our site weekly at [johnxxiii.podbean.com](http://johnxxiii.podbean.com)
- **Sign up for our weekly newsletter!** Visit our website, [Johnxxiii.net](http://Johnxxiii.net), scroll down to "Stay Connected" and enter your email address.
- **'Like' our Facebook page!** For all the latest happenings and inspirational messages 'Like' us on Facebook. Search 'St. John XXIII Catholic Church'.
- **Advertise with us!** As much as you enjoy reading our bulletin, we'd love for you to be in it! If you own a business and are interested in advertising in our bulletin, please contact Kathy Brown at J.S. Paluch 239-601-4317.
- **Are you ready for FGCU Women's Basketball?!** Join us on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Alico Arena! The Women's team plays against Kennesaw State. Reserved seating includes a free t-shirt for \$10 per person. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Mike Sullivan at 239-369-4240 or [eagleye01@comcast.net](mailto:eagleye01@comcast.net)
- **Please answer the call to the ministry of ushering & greeting.** We are in need of ushers and greeters for the upcoming season. If you are interested, please contact the office to start the volunteer process.
- **Wanted: Musicians** Our music director, Bob Kirchner is looking to form an instrumental group for our 5:00 PM Mass on Sundays. If you are interested, contact Bob at [keymaster@johnxxiii.net](mailto:keymaster@johnxxiii.net)
- **Purchase your tickets for the Christmas Fine Wine CFA Benefit** sponsored by the Women's Guild of St. John XXIII. The event takes place Dec. 7 in the community room from 5:00-7:00pm (following Advent Lessons and Carols). Tickets (\$25) are available NOW! All proceeds go to paying off our mortgage. You will also be able to order your holiday spirits and Christmas gifts at a great price with a percentage going back to the church.
- **Journey to Hope 11/24 JTH** is a support group for those who have a loved one suffering with a mental illness or dual diagnosis of substance abuse and mental illness. Please join us at 6:00pm in the Office Conference Room for education and support in a confidential, prayerful and caring setting.
- **Thanksgiving Mass** will be held at 9:00am on Thursday, November 27. There will be no 8:00am Mass. The collection will be held for our parish's Social Justice Ministry.
- **50+ Singles Brunch-** December 7, 2014, 11:00 a.m. at Heritage Palms Country Club, Six Mile Cypress \$16.95 Non-residents, \$14.95 Residents. All credit cards EXCEPT Discover Card R.S.V.P. Joann Hanak @ (239) 277-9886 by Friday, December 5, if attending or if any questions.
- **Attention Volunteers-** We will be changing out all the Hymnals on Wednesday, November 26 at 8:30 (following Mass). Your help would be appreciated to make this a quick project.
- **Coming Soon!** Join us for *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother*, an extraordinary study that reveals Mary's Unique role in God's Kingdom and our lives. Required Registration begins November 29. Participant guide is \$25.

## 40 Days For Life



Thank you to the volunteers at our Parish who supported the 40 Days For Life Campaign. St. John XXIII had over 40 parishoners prayerfully support the effort to save lives. The group received a lot of support from the local community and we hope to see even more out next year!

## Introducing Symbolon



Symbolon is a ground-breaking new series that unveils the beauty and brilliance of Catholicism. The series is led by theologian Dr. Edward Sri and a team of dynamic teachers who provide a clear and comprehensive explanation of the Catholic faith. Filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, Calcutta and in the Augustine Institute studios in Denver, Symbolon journeys through the core teachings of the Catholic faith to open up the “big picture” in a way that will help you know, live and articulate the faith to others.

**Symbolon is available FREE online through our parish access!**

You can view the videos from your personal computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone device.

Register at <https://symboloncatholic.org/index.php/register>

Registration Code: 1823ee

## Gospel Reflections | Jack Conroy

### Matthew 25:14-30. More on the End Time

This is the second of three parables that describe behavior appropriate for being ready for the “End Times.” The image of the Master leaving and returning underlies all three parables (last week’s, this week’s and next week’s) as the Church Year comes to a close. In this parable, however, it appears that activity consistent with that of “the world” is what is desirous. Or, at a minimum, the parable eschews “conservative” action! The servant who was called “worthless” is the one who took no risk with the funds. In fact, the Rabbis tell us that if a person buried funds entrusted to him or her and they were for some reason lost, that person was not responsible! The upshot is that those who risked capital and won were ushered into the joys of the Master; he who took no risk was thrown into darkness. What, for the Matthaean community was “risk?” What was “conservative” action? Is it possible that being a follower of Jesus was “risky?” Was it safer not to accept the Gospel? Is that perhaps true today? Is it possible that the Gospel challenges each and every age of the Church, and that the choice of being satisfied with externals in the Church, taking no risk with the radical example of Our Lord identifies us with the one we don’t want to be identified with? Who, here, is the “child of the Light?”



## Prayers for Our Heroes

PFC Andrew Kanopkh	SPC Michael Jednak
Sgt. Phil Dellibovi	Lt. Col. Jarett D. Broemmell
Tech Sgt Jeffrey K. Green	SPC Craig A. Schneider
Staff Sgt. Chris Dominski	Colonel Patricia O’Keefe
Staff Sgt. Shaun McBride	LCP James Palenik
Richard Tahaes	Marine Private Tyler Petersen
1st Lt. Paige Hortman	Army PFC Justin Pingicer
PFC Kathleen Hudepohl	Lcpl Kyle Waitz
Sgt. Jared Gaudet	Anthony Padula
Captain Andrew Duguay	Christian Troutner, US Navy
Master SGT Peter Parison	Major Bart Boma
Andrew Herman	PFC James Vande Leest
PFC Michael P Hughes	Marine PFC Ryan Silva
Capt. Bradley D. Laux	Lt. Col. Brady Sexton
LCPL Andrew Eldridge	Pvt. Matthew Lyons
Staff Sgt. Dennis Cosgrove	LCPL Nicholas Lyons
Michael Klem	PFC Nick Mundo
PFC Bryan Bard	Drew Fesmire

**Lord God, Almighty Father,  
creator of mankind and author of peace,  
as we are ever mindful of the cost paid  
for the liberty we possess, we ask you to  
bless the members of our armed forces.  
Give them courage, hope and strength.  
May they ever experience your firm  
support, gentle love and compassionate  
healing.  
Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to  
light.  
To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever.  
Amen.**





## Spanish Announcements

Queremos invitarlos a las actividades en español que se están realizando en la Iglesia, contamos con su presencia para que los grupos se incrementen.

- Este año estaremos de nuevo colaborando con un grupo de Doctores para brindarle un poco de alegría a niños de escasos recursos en esta Navidad. El evento se llevara a cabo el 6 de diciembre y necesitamos la colaboración de ustedes para recaudar los regalos para los niños. Agradeceremos su colaboración en esta buena obra. Favor de comunicarse con Claudia y Carlos Marquez al (239-433-5423) o vía nuestro correo electrónico.
- El día de Acción de Gracias se va acercando y nuestra iglesia, como todos los años, está recogiendo alimento para los menos afortunados. Les exhortamos a que nos ayuden con este proyecto llevándose una bolsa de papel para contribuir con comida. Pueden traer la comida a la iglesia durante los días del 8 al 16 de noviembre. Favor de comunicarse con la Sra. Silvia Cardona al (239) 689-4308.
- Ya se va acercando la Misa de Epifanía (Reyes) y como el año anterior queremos hacer de nuevo el coro de Niños. Las prácticas serán los domingos, comenzando el 14 de diciembre en las tardes. Aquellos interesados, favor de comunicarse con Glenys Collado. También tendremos una actividad después de la Misa.
- Los invitamos a que nos acompañen al rezo del Rosario todos los Martes a las 6:00PM dentro de la Iglesia.
- Si usted desea tener el Rosario Familiar en su casa cada mes, por favor pónganse en contacto con nosotros vía nuestro correo electrónico.
- Quien desee participar en la misa como lector u otras actividades pueden contactarnos también a nuestra dirección de correo.
- Dirija todas sus inquietudes, peticiones y preguntas Nuestro correo electrónico para cualquier información o petición que deseen: [contactohispanosjpxxiii@gmail.com](mailto:contactohispanosjpxxiii@gmail.com) Queremos invitarlos a que se unan a la página de Facebook de nuestra comunidad. El link es el siguiente: <http://www.facebook.com/HispanosJPXXIII>
- We have created a Facebook page in Spanish so we can communicate with our Hispanic parishioners. Here is the link: <http://www.facebook.com/HispanosJPXXIII>

## Minister Schedule: Nov. 29th & 30th

### Saturday

**LECTORS:** E.B. Smith, E. Schultz, P. Somers  
**SERVER:** M. Thomas, M. Thomas, M. Lugo

### Sunday, 7:15 AM

**LECTORS:** R. Marr, M. Marr, M. Marr  
**SERVER:** Nicholas, Alexander & Claude Villiers

### Sunday, 9:15 AM

**LECTORS:** J. Danehy, M. Danehy, A. Vaughn  
**SERVER:** E. Venglar, J. Kerekes, J. Kotschessa

### Sunday, 11:15 AM

**LECTORS:** M. Bir, M. Pagen, T. Simmons  
**SERVER:** S. Draga, E. Thompson, C. McGrail

## Welcome New Parishioners!

Russell & Karen LaBruzzy

Michael & Peggy Hanson

Alexander Fields

David & Cynthia Mottram

Cathy Komatz

Lisa White

Stanislaw & Ludwika Kulig

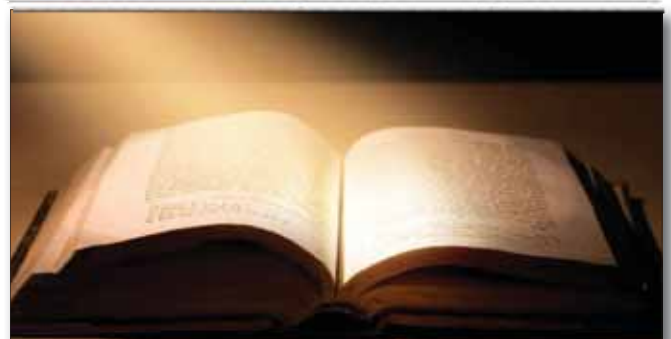
Those of you who are new to our Parish this year, and to those who've been coming for years without being registered, we need your help in staying organized and planning for our future needs. Having an accurate database of our Parishioners will help us know where and how we need to grow. **Thank you to everyone who registered with our Parish** both online and via registration card. If you've not received a welcome letter, please call the Parish Office to confirm your registration. Thanks!

All new parishioners, and those interested in registering in our Parish, are invited to attend the New Parishioner Orientation; **the next Session is January 11th**. This is your opportunity to become informed and active members of the Parish and participate in our various ministries. 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, one 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 in the support of the parish or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket.

## The Jesus Prayer During Advent



**What:** The Jesus Prayer has been used by millions of His followers, dating back to the Desert Fathers and Mothers. Eastern Christianity is the primary way to "pray always" and "pray unceasingly". Theologians point out how it addresses all the great mysteries of Christianity in one short and powerful prayer.

**When:** Tues Mornings 9:00-10:00am (coffee served @ 8:30)  
Dec. 2nd, 9th, 16th

**Where:** The Community Room

**In these three sessions Rich Byrne will:**

- Present the history, theology and practice of the Jesus Prayer (15 mins.)
- Lead a Guided Jesus Prayer Experience (20-30 mins.)
- Have a Time for Sharing, Questioning, etc. (15-20 mins.)

## KofC Sponsored | Family Events



### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest:

Open to children ages 5 to 14. Prizes awarded in age groups. Contest rules available in the Narthex. Posters will be judged and awards given at the 'Christmas Family Movie Afternoon.'

### Family Movie Afternoon:

Sunday, December 21st

2:00-5:00 PM

In the Community Room

Featuring "The Nativity Story"

Dessert Provided



## 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Children's Mass



Any child of the parish, who would like to participate in our musical reenactment of the birth of Jesus during the Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Mass, please read below.

All children in grades K-6 are welcome to participate.

Children must be able to follow directions.

Children will be dressed in costume as angels, shepherds, manger animals, kings, Gabriel, Mary and Joseph.

Costumes provided.

Children will be given the lyrics to the songs at the first rehearsal and be asked to have them memorized.

Your child must be available to rehearse on these dates:

**Wednesday, December 3 5:30-6PM**

**Wednesday, December 10 5:30-6PM**

**Wednesday, December 17 5:30-6PM**

**Monday December 22 5:00-6:00**

If your child is interested in participating please contact Chris Biel at [chrisdre@johnxxiii.net](mailto:chrisdre@johnxxiii.net) or call at 561-7499, no later than December 1st.

Parents: We need your help with costumes, helping with the children during practice and during Mass on the 24th. Please let us know if you can help!!

## Prayer List

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

Walter, Jeanne & Peggy Stobb	Margaret Lawlor
Jim Young	Anne Soter
Darrell Evans	Hank Rose
Dolores Melfi	Delores Letender
Ann Pavlan	Alfred Atkins
Hank Cason	Frances Barnas
Stan & Ludwika Kulig	Peggy Grinda
Tony Jenkins	Tom Allind
Chester Biel	Michael Nikodem
Ken Dubos	Cheryl Pooley
Steve Ostendorf	Landon West
Jim & Mary Young	Helgi Downes
Karen Dunn	Duvan Zapata
Brian Swanson	Edward Rostick
Elizabeth Young	Joann Suda
Russ Call	Emma Quid
Andrea Favicchio	Ella Stunwick
Don & Gayle Dallas	Bill Bosco
Jane White	Angela Blinkiewicz
Laura Coliendo	Judy Martinez
Ida Parrino	Peter Druskis
Leo Dulay	Cody Eldridge
Lucy Ramunni	Anna Murphy
Tom Stankowski	Tina Lombardo
Geof Davies	Gracelyn Marra-Bax
Pam Oskvarek	Bill Reynolds
Greg Seng	Robert Smith
Ken Grant	Jack Rizzo
Ryan Novajasky	Arnold Gitto
Albert Kirchner	John Sayres
Walter and Lisa Knoop	Eileen Brahney
Don Oswald	Amy Jette
Anita Sapnar	Irene Slisz
Danielle Bechtold	

**Names will remain on the prayer list for approximately one month.** If you'd like the name to continue, please call once per month to remind us to keep it listed - 239.561.2245. The best way to ensure your loved ones are consistently prayed for within our greater E-Prayer Community - email Betsy Engelbrecht at [e-prayer@popejohn23.net](mailto:e-prayer@popejohn23.net). Their names will be circulated to an ever-growing list of people who will pray for them by name!

## Prayers for Eternal Life

Please remember in your prayers those who've entered into eternal life, especially

**Suzan Norfleet & John Dolan**

## The Tabernacle Candle

This week is offered in memory of:

**Robert E. Slota, Jr.**

Requested by his parents

During the month of November, you are invited to write the names of your deceased loved ones in our **Book of Remembrance** located by the statue of the Holy Family.



# A Great Year to look back on.... .... and a Great Future Ahead

We are reporting to you what we have committed  
to provide for your spiritual fulfillment.

## OUR COVENANT AT ST. JOHN XXIII

### WORSHIP

- Attend Mass
- Maintain an active prayer and sacramental life

### GROW

- Expand my knowledge of the Catholic Faith
- Participate in a day of reflection, retreat, Bible study or education study

### SERVE

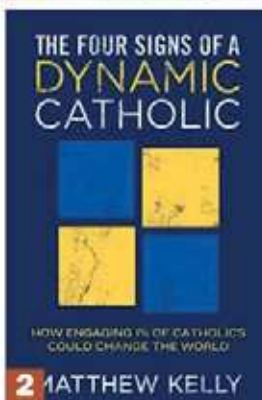
- Support the parish Mission by giving my time & talent
- Participate in one ministry, committee, special event or charitable cause

### CONNECT

- Establish a friendship within our Parish Family
- Participate in or support one Parish event.

### GIVE

- Live a life of gratitude.
- Contribute sacrificially to the mission of the Parish



- 1) Diocesan Youth Rally
- 2) Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic Book Study
- 3) Living Your Strengths Classes
- 4) Marriage Retreat
- 5) Vacation Bible School



## 2014 ANGEL TREE IS BACK!



Christmas is right around the corner, and plans are underway for our 2014 Angel Tree!  
You can brighten Christmas for children in need, as well as the Homebound, mothers and children at Lifeline Family Center, Seniors, Veterans, and our neighbors at the Villas.

Angel tags are placed on trees in the Narthex.  
If you select a gift tag please help us by:

- Returning your gift to the Narthex no later than Dec. 10, 2014.
- With the original Angel Tag attached to the gift. Tags are coded to identify the recipient. It's a good idea to write down the Code in case you misplace the tag.
- Wrap your gift to withstand multiple handling.
- We try to provide each child with a toy and an article of clothing, so you will see a suggestion for a toy, as well as clothing size on each child's tag.
- Only a small percentage of the children request a bicycle. Please don't take a bicycle tag unless you can provide one. We don't want to disappoint a child.

Thanks to your continued kindness and generous spirit, Christmas will be made brighter for those among us who are struggling and in need.

### Memorial Garden Memorials

We want to thank the two generous donors who memorialized two of our crosses.



We have an opportunity for you to leave a family legacy or memorialize a loved one on one of our beautiful Stations of the Cross in our Memorial Garden. The cost is \$5,000 per station. This is a wonderful way to support our parish and leave a living legacy. Please call the office 239-561-2245 for details.

## Weekly Financials

November 16, 2014

Offertory Cash & Checks	24,178
Building Fund	1,945
Total	\$26,123

Mass Attendance	3,278
Families	2,669
Contribution per family	\$9.79

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

\* Please make your checks payable to "St. John XXIII"  
**Catholic Faith Appeal (last week's numbers)**

Goal	324,000
Pledge	611,545
% of Goal	188.75%
Payments for 2014	\$587,533

### Bills

Lee County Utilities	\$413.43
Office Supplies	\$441.35
Monthly Offertory Envelopes	\$776.32

### Raffle Winners for 11/17/14!

William Pautler	\$100
Michael Wilson	\$100

If you would like to give an end of year gift to the CFA and have it be counted for 2014, please note these important dates:

**Cash & Checks- December 22nd**

**Stocks & Bonds- December 12th**

Thank you for all of your support on our Catholic Faith Appeal!



### Your faith has been with you from the start...

Most often, when we think of making a gift to the Church, we think of our weekly offertory, which is considered to be a sacrificial percentage of one's income. However, prayerfully consider leaving our Parish in your will in the form of:


**Securities of Closely-Held Stock, Personal Property, Real Estate or Gifts In-Kind, Charitable Trusts**

Please call the Parish Office to set an appointment and determine how you can leave a lasting legacy at St. John XXIII

### The Best Things in Life are Free

*Remind us, O Lord, in this money-conscious, material world, that the best gifts given us, our mortal and eternal life, we gained freely from You. And challenge us, Lord, to give back to You as freely those lives that those we meet may see Your light and come to know you.*

# Advent: A Season of Longing



**Presented By:  
Rich Byrne, D.Min.  
Tuesday, Dec. 2nd  
6:30 – 8:00 PM  
St. John XXIII  
Community Room**

Enrich your prayer life as you prepare in faith to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. Join us for a night of learning about the history, theology and traditional practices of Advent

There is no charge, but please register in the Narthex or by email: [Deaconrich@johnxxiii.net](mailto:Deaconrich@johnxxiii.net)



## Catholic Community Happenings

**Safe Environment Training.** As Christian adults, we have a moral and legal responsibility, and are entrusted by God with the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of minors and vulnerable adults. As they participate in activities within or sponsored by our diocese, it is our commitment to provide an environment which is safe and nurturing. In accordance with the Diocese of Venice policy to offer continued Safe Environment Awareness to all employees and volunteers, the following parishes will hold Regional Safe Environment Training, or SET. All volunteers must be trained! One should NOT attend if fingerprints have not been cleared. **Next training is on December 4th, at San Antonio parish in Port Charlotte.**

**You're invited! Bishop Verot Players present:** A Night at the Theater. Featuring the Bishop Verot Chorus and Band performing numbers from hit musicals *Wicked*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Sound of Music*, and many more! November 21st & 22nd at 7:00PM in the Anderson Theater. Free Admission.

**Bishop Verot Catholic High School** Southwest Florida's leading Catholic High School is currently accepting applications for incoming freshman for the 2015-2016 school year. Freshman placement testing is scheduled for November 22nd. Applications and additional information including Visit Days, tours, and tuition assistance can be found on our website at [www.BVHS.org](http://www.BVHS.org) or by calling Jill Rhone, Director of Admissions, at (239) 274-6760.

**Call for parish volunteers!** AFCAAM needs players, sponsors and committee members to help make the 12th Annual Golf Classic a success! It takes place at The Forest Country Club on Friday, April 10th. Registration begins at noon. Proceeds benefit the after school reading and teen mentoring programs serving children from the Dunbar and Harlem Heights neighborhoods. For more information contact: Roseann Albertario 239-461-0233 ext. 201 Email: [r.albertario@afcaam.com](mailto:r.albertario@afcaam.com)

**Endow Women's Studies** - All women are invited to attend a new study series on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Light Parish in Fort Myers. Connect in faith with other women. There will be Scripture readings and open discussion. Cost is \$19.95. The series runs from through January 27. Babysitting is provided. For more information, please call 239-267-7088 ext. 245.

**Men's Weekend Silent Retreat** - Catholic men are called to a seemingly impossible task: to be holy husbands and fathers at home, and holy apostles at work and in the world. Yet nothing is impossible for God, and through a strong interior life of prayer and sacrifice a man can receive the graces needed to live this life of holiness at all times. The Diocese of Venice Office of Evangelization is sponsoring a Men's Weekend Silent Retreat led by Reverend Sean Morris, O.M.V., at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice from December 12-14 to assist men in this task. Through challenging talks, prayer, adoration, and spiritual direction, this Retreat will equip men to become better husbands, fathers, and Catholics. Cost will be \$200, which includes meals and lodging for the weekend; need-based scholarships are available. For more information and to register, visit [dioceseofvenice.org/mens-retreat](http://dioceseofvenice.org/mens-retreat), or call the Office of Evangelization at 941-484-9543.

**Theology on Tap** - This exciting program for young adults (18-39), allows them to learn about the faith while building community. This year Theology on Tap will be held at various

parishes throughout the Diocese. Each location will host a series of weekly talks and discussions on relevant topics in a relaxed atmosphere. Free babysitting, icebreakers, trivia, and food and drinks are provided... BYOB. Upcoming dates are as follows: continuously on Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. at rotating Parishes: First Tuesdays at St. John the Evangelist; Second Tuesdays at St. Agnes; Third Tuesdays at St. Peter the Apostle; Fourth Tuesdays at St. William.

**Experience "Education You Can Believe In! For more than 75 years, St. Francis Xavier School** has provided quality academics founded on Catholic teachings. Stop by for a student-guided tour and learn more about our curriculum, activities and faith formation. **UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE DATES:** Tuesday, December 2nd 9 a.m. Tuesday, January 27th 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 4th 9 a.m. Thursday, April 30th 9 a.m. [www.stfranciscortmyers.org](http://www.stfranciscortmyers.org) 2055 Heitman Street Fort Myers. Michele Cheatham: 334-7707 ext. 223

**World Youth Day Pilgrimage: Krakow 2016** - The Diocese of Venice has opened registration for the 2016 international pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Krakow Poland! This trip promises to be an extraordinary experience for all involved, as it will be held in the birth country of St. John Paul II, founder of World Youth Day. The trip will take place from July 23 - August 2. For questions and to reserve your group please contact George Smith at [gsmith@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:gsmith@dioceseofvenice.org).



**St. Paul Evangelization** is a grassroots, non-profit organization, dedicated to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking our Catholic Faith to the streets. We do this in a non-confrontational way, allowing the Holy Spirit to move in the hearts of those who witness our public Catholic Presence. Visit [streetevangelization.com/fortmyers](http://streetevangelization.com/fortmyers) for more information.

**Faith & Ale** Upcoming Session Dates and Speakers:  
December 11 @ Resurrection of Our Lord Rev. Tom Heck Pastor, St. Therese, N. Fort Myers, FL | January 15 @ Resurrection of Our Lord Michael Reese Bishop Verot HS Theology Dept. Chair | February 19 @ Resurrection of Our Lord Dale Ahlquist American Chesterton Society | March 19 @ Resurrection of Our Lord SPOUSE NIGHT Jim Towey President, Ave Maria University Former US Legal Counsel to Mother Teresa | April 16 @ Our Lady of Light Father George Ratzmann Pastor, St. William's Parish, Naples, FL

# **Advent**

## **Festival of Lessons & Carols**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH 4:00 PM**



### **FEATURING THE ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th Century. In this service, we listen to six Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News.

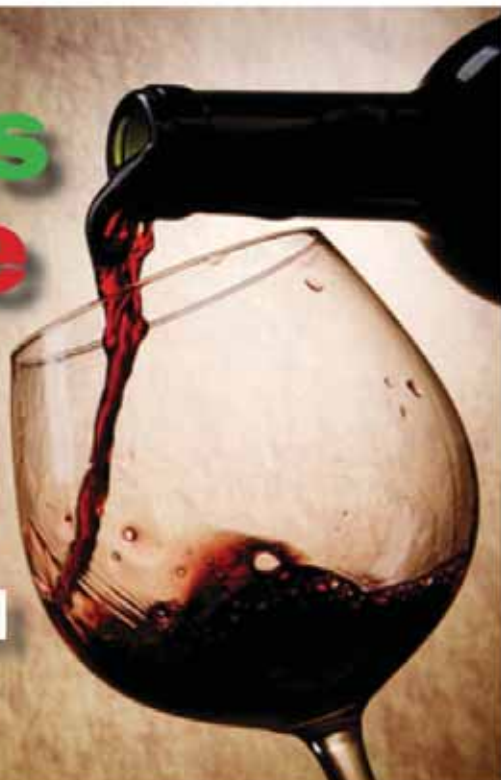
Each lesson is followed by a carol or other song that reflects on the lesson's message and brief prayer.





# **A Christmas Fine Wine CFA benefit**

**Sponsored by the  
Women's Guild  
of St John XXIII**



**The community room at St John XXIII  
December 7, 2014**

*5-7pm following Advent Lessons and Carols*

**To help ensure the payoff of our mortgage  
Benefits the CFA and St John XXIII**

Tickets are now available before and after all Masses and at the church office.

**\$25 Donation**

Come in your best holiday dress for a lovely experience of pairing fine wines with cheeses and other foods, hors d'oeuvres and dessert.

Coffee and non-alcoholic beverages will be served as well.

A silent auction of fabulous prizes and opportunities will be available to help this great cause!



# THANK YOU!

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that support our Parish.