

December 6, 2015
Second Sunday of Advent

the
EVANGELIST
SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Knights Honor Bishop Dewane at Vocations Dinner
\$11,000 Awarded to Diocese Seminarians

Over 160 attendees enjoyed a great meal, good entertainment and a fun time at the 2015 Vocations Dinner Dance, which honored Bishop Frank J. Dewane. The event was held Friday, November 20.

The St. John Knights of Columbus Council 11281 would like to thank all who attended, donated and worked to make this event a success. Thanks to all of you, \$11,000 has been awarded to Seminarians in the Diocese of Venice.

*More photos are featured on page 10. See next week's **Evangelist** for more details from the Vocations Dinner.*



625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108 • Phone 239.566.8740 • Fax 239.566.9117
www.SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com • E-mail: info@SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com
Daily Mass: 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.; Thursday Evening: 6:30 p.m.; Saturday Mass: 8:00 a.m.
Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil: 3:00 & 5:00 p.m. — Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:15 a.m., 1:15 & 5:00 p.m.

Scan this tag with your smartphone to view our mobile website.

Mass for Deceased (+) and Special Intentions**Requested by****December 5, 2015****Saturday**

8:00 AM	+	Bert Beihoff	Peter DeFrancesca
Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday			
3:00 PM	+	Jean & Samuel Abbate	John & Geraldine Fox
5:00 PM	+	Jane Pelak	The Family

December 6, 2015**Sunday**

7:00 AM	+	Reuss & Page Family	Ronald Reuss
9:00 AM	+	Jean DeCesare	Kay Reid
11:15 AM		For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM	+	Sharon K. McCarthy	Joseph McCarthy
5:00 PM	+	Thomas & Jolene Tracey	The Family

December 7, 2015**Monday**

8:00 AM	+	Dolores Varone	Lawerance Varone
9:00 AM		L. Fedeli Eddy	Dick & Helen Fedeli

December 8, 2015**Tuesday ~ Holy Day of Obligation**

8:00 AM	+	Sal DeFrancesca	Peter DeFrancesca
10:00 AM	+	Bob Stamant	Edward & Ann Gelina
Noon	+	John Spagnola	Rita
5:00 PM	+	Linnane Family	Dick & Helen Fedeli
7:00 PM	+	Barbara Boylan	Catherine, Marlin, BJ and Brett
<i>Altar Flowers in Memory of Barbara Boylan ~ Req. by Catherine, Marlin, BJ and Brett</i>			

December 9, 2015**Wednesday**

8:00 AM	+	Poor Souls in Purgatory	Dominic V.
9:00 AM	+	Pat McKenna	Robert & Michelle Laeroix

December 10, 2015**Thursday**

8:00 AM	+	William Robert Heaslip, Jr.	Colleen Drozdowski
9:00 AM	+	Gerald Hobt	Mr. & Mrs. William Pfau
6:30 PM	+	Kathryn Majeske	St. John "Family"

December 11, 2015**Friday**

8:00 AM	+	Anna DeVito	Mr. & Mrs. Maurice DeVito
9:00 AM	+	Elaine Margeson	Carole Calandrucci

December 12, 2015**Saturday**

8:00 AM	+	Marion Hesselgrave	Iris Horey
Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday			
3:00 PM	+	Cecilia & William Schultz	Schultz Family
5:00 PM	+	Avolio Family	Pauline & Angelo Campo

December 13, 2015**Sunday**

7:00 AM	+	Martha DeFrancesca	Peter DeFrancesca
9:00 AM	+	Rita O'Reilly	The Frankens
11:15 AM		For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM		Kathy and Dave Forness	Deborah Marsh
5:00 PM		John and Irene Bloom	The Family

SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK****Saturday, December 5, 2015****First Saturday**

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Sunday, December 6, 2015**Second Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins**

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday, December 7, 2015**St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 8, 2015**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 9, 2015**St. Juan Diego**

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 11, 2015**St. Damasus I**

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 12, 2015**Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Sunday, December 13, 2015**Third Sunday of Advent**

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Holy Communion Available for the Hospitalized and Homebound Any parishioner who would like to receive Holy Communion while he/she is in the hospital or unable to get to Mass from his/her home may do so by calling the parish office, 566.8740, or emailing emministry@sjecc.com. An Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist will bring Holy Communion at a mutually agreed upon time. Please note that the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist bring Holy Communion to North Naples NCH on Monday through Friday.

MASS INTENTIONS...



**A Capital Campaign for
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

Campaign Corner

December 6, 2015

"I dream of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation."

— Pope Francis, EVANGELII GAUDIUM

Adoration Chapel Closes for Renovation and Renewal

Our Adoration Chapel is a unique space both at St. John and in the local community. Here, within the safe confines of our campus, a beacon of our faith, the Blessed Sacrament, is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for adoration and worship. By providing this reflective and deeply personal connection to Jesus and the Catholic faith to the community, we are serving God and His mission for us. It is well-used, with people praying at all hours of the day and night.

Given its importance to our Parish Family and those surrounding us, the Adoration Chapel was selected as the first physical space to receive our renovation planning priority. We have already installed new air conditioning and lighting systems to make it comfortable and inviting. Next, we will be closing the Chapel next week for one week, Monday, December 7, 2015, through Friday, December 11, 2015, to install a new floor, deploy an electric covering system for the Blessed Sacrament window (which will allow those who have physical limitations to adore and pray), and ensure the Chapel is fully finished and painted. This is more than just a renovation. It is a labor of love to provide the healing and loving mercy of our faith for all those looking for acceptance and support, even at 2 in the morning.

While we have begun the work our current blessings have allowed us to accomplish for the **Build Our Future, Serve Our Past** capital campaign, we still need our entire Parish Family to give in order to reach our additional goals. These goals will make it possible for St. John to root itself in the lives of our Parish Family and the community around us. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Lichwalla, the Campaign Coordinator at 239.495.2001 or email: campaign@sjecc.com.

You can also learn more information about the Campaign at: www.sjecc.com/future

Jean-Paul Boucher, General Manager,
jp@sjecc.com



BUILD OUR FUTURE - SERVE OUR PAST CAMPAIGN

DECEMBER 6, 2015 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH CLERGY



Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor

Fr. Robert Murphy	Associate
Fr. Jim Simko	Associate
Deacon Hal Brenner	
Deacon Forrest Wallace	
Deacon Frank Paniccia	Senior Status

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Sacrament of Baptism

The Diocese requires that parents seeking baptism for their child attend a baptism preparation class. To schedule a baptism class, parents must be registered practicing members of St. John's for a minimum of two months. Classes are offered once a month and baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month after the 1:00 p.m. Mass. Please call the parish office to register for a class. Upon completion of the class and fulfillment of the godparent requirements, parents may schedule a baptism date.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Those who wish to be married in our parish must complete the Marriage Preparation Program. The Diocese requires a six month notice.

Anointing of the Sick/Funeral Arrangements

Call the parish office 566.8740. If the office is closed the answering machine will provide an emergency phone number for you to reach a priest.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Business Office is located in the PLC (behind the Church)

All Administrative Staff
239.566.8740

General Manager
Jean-Paul Boucher: 228.3910
Fax: 239.566.9117
jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com

Parish Secretary

Deborah Marsh

Assistant to the Pastor

Tricia Schwarz

Pastoral Musician and Liturgist

Tom Oram: 228-3920

Choir Director

Ellie Roberts

Sacristan

Lan Tran

Director of Family Mission

Jean-Paul Boucher

Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor

Kathy Sims

Memorial Garden

Jean-Paul Boucher

Religious Boutique

Jackie Gibson: 228.3921

Maintenance

566.8740

Education Staff

Director of Religious Education

Natalie Campbell: 228.3904/3909

Coordinator, Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Jack Kindsvater: 556.8740, ext. 3918

email staff members at:

info@SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com

PARISH REGISTRATION

Parish Registration Forms are available on the tables in the church narthex, in the parish office and on the website: www.saintjohntheevangelist.com When on the website, click on the **Forms** tab at the top of the home page and select New Parishioner Form. Download the form, complete it and return the completed form to the parish office or drop in the collection basket.

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111th Avenue North
Naples, FL 34108

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Fax: 239.566.9117

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Administrative Office Hours are:

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
(until all are heard)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday

8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

Thursday Evening

6:30 p.m.

Saturday - 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Masses:

3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.,

11:15 a.m. & 1:15 p.m.

5:00 p.m. Contemporary Mass

FOR OUR RECORDS

We need your help to keep our records current. If there are any births, deaths, marriages, moves, etc. in your family, please notify the front office at 239.566.8740 or email: info@saintjohntheevangelist.com

Thank you!

BULLETIN SUBMISSION

Please submit all ordinary time submission requests by Thursday at 10:00 a.m. **10 days prior** to the Sunday publication you are requesting. You can e-mail: kathys@saintjohntheevangelist.com or drop your submission off in the parish office.

Mass Intentions

We are currently accepting intentions for 2016.

Altar Flowers and/or Host & Wine

We have 2016 Mass availability and 2015 wine and host and flowers availability. Stop by the parish office to offer the wine and host and/or the altar flowers in memory or in honor of your loved ones.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*To Know, To Love, and To Serve God
in His church and our community.*

PARISH INFORMATION...

SAINT JOHN the EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH • WWW.SAINTJOHNTHEEVANGELIST.COM

Hymns for the Second Sunday of Advent, December 5 & 6

Readings:	614
Entrance Hymn:	542 Table of Plenty
Preparation Hymn:	441 How Can I Keep From Singing?
Communion Hymn:	243 I Am the Bread of Life
	65 Creator of the Stars of Night
Closing Hymn:	581 Sent Forth By God's Blessing

Choral Anthems at 9 & 11:15 AM Masses

<i>Prelude</i>	Every Valley	<i>Sherry Porterfield</i>
<i>Communion</i>	Philippians 1: I thank God every time I remember you <i>Oram</i>	

Hymns for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, December 8

Readings:	797
Entrance Hymn:	337 Sing a New Song
Preparation Hymn:	179 Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
Communion Hymn:	255 Draw Near
	178 Salve Regina
Closing Hymn:	185 Immaculate Mary

A Simple Gesture: Fill Bag With Food to Feed the Hungry

Reminder: if you took one of the blue food bags for the "A Simple Gesture" program in October or any time since, please return the bag with the food items listed on the tag the weekend of December 12-13. If you are going to be out of town that weekend, the bags may be turned in to the Parish Office prior to that date. Additional bags are available in the Parish Office for anyone who wants a bag and did not receive one.

As part of the program, "A Simple Gesture", the bags are filled and returned every other month. The food in the bags is donated to St. Vincent de Paul, St. Matthew's House and Guadalupe Social Services.

"A Simple Gesture" is just one of the programs that Our Ladies of Charity supports.

For more information, please visit our website:
<http://saintjohntheevangelist.com/ministries/food>

December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Is a Holy Day of Obligation

December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, is the patronal feast day of the United States of America, and as such, is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mass times for Tuesday, December 8 are 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

There are no vigil Masses.

Masses at Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

Monday, December 7 + Frank DeFrancesca	10:00 AM	Aristocrat req. by Peter DeFrancesca
Tuesday December 8 + Nancy Walsh	11:00 AM	Brookdale req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Hooper
Thursday, December 11 + Frank DeFrancesca	10:00 AM	Imperial Healthcare Center req. by Peter DeFrancesca

SAVE THE DATE for Valentine Dinner Dance

Please mark your calendars now for the Knights of Columbus Annual Valentine Dinner Dance scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2016.

Tickets go on sale January 2.

by Jean-Paul Boucher

General Manager

jp@sjecc.com



#ToServe – What am I Thankful For?

St. John Ministries

Sitting around the Thanksgiving table last week, I was fortunate to be surrounded by family, enjoying a wonderful meal. So many people do not have a home or enough food to feed their families. Others have lost their loved ones, or cannot travel to be with them. I am so blessed to be where I am. It also reminded me just how amazing the Parish Family of St. John is when living out our Catholic Faith, to know, to love, and to serve God in His church and our community. We showcased our service this past week with every step we took.

I am thankful first for the **Saint Vincent de Paul Society**. This tireless ministry helps those in need in the geographical boundaries of Collier County. When possible, SVdP helps in situations with rental assistance, electricity and water bills, lack of food, clothing, furniture, and in rare instances, funeral expenses. No act of charity is excluded. This was especially clear with the Thanksgiving Food Drive last weekend. The number of brown paper bags filled with groceries and necessities was amazing. Thank you to all of you who gave to this worthy cause. A special additional thanks needs to be given to the **Cub Scouts**, who assisted SVdP with receiving the generosity of our Parish Family and with loading up the truck.

As you have seen on our website, in the bulletin, and even in the local news (<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/local/thanksgiving-in-the-park-honors-immokalee-farmworkers-with-food-tradition-254bb1eb-3af6-7162-e053-01-355044761.html>), St. John was asked by the **Guadalupe Center** to become the primary religious organization to support Thanksgiving in the Park, one of the largest community service events in Naples, with hundreds of volunteers working over multiple days to prepare and serve Thanksgiving meals for those in need in Immokalee. Our ministries responded in force, with over 100 volunteers pulling turkey and setting up mashed potatoes in our kitchen and the Ballroom last Wednesday. In particular, the **Knights of Columbus**, whose lead of food service, Lou Altieri, the **Ladies of Charity**, our **Youth Group**, and the **Saint John Neumann High School Honor Society**, spent all day on Wednesday chopping turkey and loading the refrigerator truck full of food. It was an amazing illustration of our ecumenical connection to serve the larger community, along with a clear illustration of how much we can accomplish together as a Parish Family. We helped feed 1,700 people on Thanksgiving, which was over 400 more than last year. And we are looking forward to it again next year!

From individuals who help families in need during these holidays, provide persistent food support with **A Simple Gesture** (bags will be picked up next weekend at Mass by the **Youth Group** and new bags will be handed out) and serve in the **Guadalupe Social Services Soup Kitchen**, to major programs like the Vocations Dinner, **JOP Tea**, and Thanksgiving in the Park, it is clear that St. John actively lives our Holy Father's call:

"Works of love directed to one's neighbor are the most perfect external manifestation of the interior grace of the Spirit." – Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*



Mass Times ~ Christmas and New Year

The Christmas Story

Friday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. (More information will be in next week's bulletin.)

Thursday, December 24, 2015

Christmas Eve Mass

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. (featuring the Children's Choir)

10:00 p.m. (Music starts at 9:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 25, 2015

Christmas Day Mass

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m.
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Thursday, December 31, 2015

Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 2016

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon

**See Advent Penance Services,
page 18**

ANTIPHONS for WEEKDAY MASS

Monday, December 7: Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Sir 15: 5*

In the midst of the Church he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Our God will come to save us!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 1: 2, 3*

He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield fruit in due season.

Wednesday, December 9: Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Hb 2: 3; 1 Cor 4: 5*

The Lord will come and he will not delay.
He will illumine what is hidden in darkness
and reveal himself to all the nations.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. O bless the Lord, my soul!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Is 40: 10; 35: 5*

Behold, our Lord will come with power
and will enlighten the eyes of his servants.

Thursday, December 10: Thursday of the Second Week of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Cf. Ps 119 (118): 151-152*

You, O Lord, are close, and all your ways are truth.
From of old I have known of your decrees, for you are eternal.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger, and of great kindness.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ti 2: 12-13

Let us live justly and devoutly in this age,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of the glory of our great God.

Friday, December 11: Friday of the Second Week of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Behold, the Lord will come
descending with splendor to visit his people with peace,
and he will bestow on them eternal life.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cf. Phil 3: 20-21*

We await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,
who will change our mortal bodies,
to conform with his glorified body.

Saturday, December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Patroness of the Americas; Protectress of Unborn Children)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Rev 12:1*

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun,
with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of
twelve stars.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. You are the highest honor of our race.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Lk 1:52*

The Lord has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

Altar Servers:

Jean-Paul Boucher
jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com

Arts & Liturgical Environment:

Kay Sanfelippo 949.7122

Eucharistic Ministry

Nace Baier EMMinistry@sjecc.com

Homebound

Call the Office 566.8740

Hospital

Mary Ellen Metro
maryellen@sjecc.com

Greeters & Ushers:

John Smith 598.2306

Jamaica Mission:

Jeanne Stamant 514.0290
 (summer) 239.248.3248

Lectors:

Victor Yopez Lectors@sjecc.com
Youth & Family Mass Lectors
 Miguel Castillo miguel@sjecc.com

Prayer Group:

Linda Reilly 821.8982

Respect Life:

Rosemary Erickson 597.3941

Pastoral Stewardship Council:

President/Contact Rick Beebe
psc@sjecc.com

Adult Faith Enrichment Ministry.

Offers adult education programming for continued growth in our faith through such activities as retreats, Bible & Catechism studies, lectures, seminars, social action opportunities and workshops. Jack Kindsvater: 566.8740, ext. 3918

AA. Monday, 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Al-Anon. Monday 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday - beginners, 11:30 a.m.; and noon - discussion; all in PLC. Wednesday evenings 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. St. Leo Catholic Church, Juan Diego Building. Carol: 804.306.5323

Ala-Teen. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

Arimatheans. A group of caring parishioners who support parishioners by attending funerals as representation of our faith community. Elaine: 566-8160

Boy Scout Troop 226 – St. John the Evangelist. Meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. For information: scoutmaster@troop-226.com

Cub Scout Pack 226 – Chartered at St. John the Evangelist. All 1st - 5th grade boys welcome.

Meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. For information: pack226naples@gmail.com

Choirs:**Adult**

Choir of St. John the Evangelist. Rehearsals Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Residents and seasonals welcome. Tom Oram: 566.8740

Children's Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Wednesdays, 5:00 to 5:25 p.m. Grades 1-5. Tom Oram: 566.8740

Contemporary Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Sundays, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Grades 6-12 especially welcome. Tom Oram: 566.8740

Circle of Comfort. If you have cancer, or are taking care of someone who does, you may be facing challenges that may leave you feeling overwhelmed, frightened, alone and in need of comfort. Let us share our experience of faith, strength and prayer with you. We help each other live one day at a time through encouragement, prayer, laughter or whatever it takes to bring comfort to each other. Jim or Darlene 566.8740

Companion Driving Ministry. Ongoing "Need a Ride/Give a Ride" program offered to anyone in need of transportation to attend church services. For more information or to sign up for a ride or to become a volunteer driver, contact the parish office at 566.8740 or the ministry director, Beth Lucci at 877.6254 or email sjeride@gmail.com

Cursillistas. Third Tuesday monthly at 7:00 p.m. The Naples area Ultreya meets at St. William's Ministry Center, Seagate Drive. All Cursillistas and visitors welcome. Robyn DeVille: 253.6275 or robyndeville@earthlink.net

Divine Gift Boutique (located across from the restrooms). **Winter Season Hours:** Saturday from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. If interested in volunteering in the gift shop contact Jackie Gibson: 228.3921

Divorced and Separated Support Group.

Anyone who is going through a separation or has experienced it in the past (no matter how many years ago) is welcome. Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Lhara Echevarria: 239.293.3694 or Lhara@sjecc.com

Faith Chat. Wednesdays at 5:45 - 7:30 p.m. Call office: 239.566.8740

Gospel Forum. Group of men who join together to discuss the following Sunday's gospel and its application to everyday life. Prayer and casual discussion of various spiritual writings follows. Pizza and soft drinks offered. Meets Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Scott Baier: 877.9784 or Chet Lucarelli: 289.2807

Grief Support. The next 7-session series begins February 16 and ends March 29 (Tuesdays only). For any concerns related to the Bereavement Ministry contact Dee: 594.7193

Hospitality Ministry. Volunteers serve light refreshments for parishioners who gather after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses for

sharing, communicating and extending fellowship. If interested in helping contact Elida Gil: 239.597.8909 or Judy Hemond: 561.779.6024

Job Search Skills & Support. Thursdays 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the library. This is an open meeting for anyone who is unemployed or seeking a career change. Free. Carol Marlow: 948.0050

Knights of Columbus St. John Council 11281.

Meets first Monday of the month. Officers at 6 p.m.; business meeting at 7 p.m. Social meeting last Monday of the month. Visiting Knights are welcome. Scott Schwarz, Grand Knight: 293.6876

Knights of Columbus Arthur J. Corr Assembly 3308. Meets third Tuesday of every month at Noon except January and February when they meet at 6:30 p.m. Visiting Knights are invited. S/K Gary Ray: 821.5115

Knitting & Crocheting. Tuesdays from 10:00 - Noon: Want to learn? We are a service group that knits & crochets to benefit those in need: blankets for soldiers, hats for cancer patients, baby hats & booties & prayer shawls. Call the office: 566.8740

Ladies of Charity. Meets the second Friday of every month, volunteers in Immokalee schools, the Guadalupe soup kitchen and clothing bank and visits local nursing homes to assist residents who want to attend Mass. For friendly visits and simple errands for the homebound, call Carolyn McNichols at 239.919.2675 or carolyn@tsusa.us. If interested in joining, call MarieElaina Mullin: 273.1702.

Mah Jong. Wednesday, Noon - 3 p.m. Beginners welcome. Joan Scariotti: 594.0994

Men's Club. Group of dedicated men (with the superb assistance from their ladies) who assist the Pastor and the parish. Meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. New members welcome. Joe Lichwalla: 239.495.2001

Narcotics Anonymous. Thursday, Saturday, 8 p.m.

Pinochle. Tuesday, 1-4 p.m. Joseph DeJesus: 598.9865

Project Rachel Lay Companion. A post-abortion healing ministry providing one-on-one counseling. Loretta Judy: 239.293.5897 or lnbjudy@comcast.net

Respect Life. A group of parishioners committed to protecting the sanctity of life in all of its stages. They coordinate all respect life activities within the parish as well as outreach to the community. Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Rosemary Erickson: 597.3941

Sewing Group. Meets to sew for needy children on Wednesdays 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. New members are invited. Nancy Cote: 514.0410

St. Vincent de Paul. Meets first and third Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass. SVdP Office: 775.1667

Third Order of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Lay Carmelites. Phyllis Gyskiewicz, 566.7307

Women's Bible Study. Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and Monday evenings. Maggie Miller: 239.687.0687 or magnana@comcast.net or Linda Reilly, 821.8982

■ Please check the Event Sheets on the building doors for the meeting location of the group. Groups do not always meet in the same location from week to week. ■

PARISH MINISTRIES & OUTREACH PROGRAMS & EVENTS...

8 SAINT JOHN the EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH • WWW.SAINTJOHNTHEEVANGELIST.COM

PRAYER GROUPS

Pray The Rosary & The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

We pray in the Church every morning except Sunday. We begin 45 minutes before Mass. Please join us. *(We have printed guides with the prayers.)*

Cenacle of Life Prayer Group

Blessed John Paul II said "a great prayer for Life is urgently needed!" Cenacle participants pray for an end to the Culture of Death every Tuesday evening, 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. In the powerful presence of the Blessed Sacrament, we offer 10 mysteries of the rosary and related prayers and we fast one day a week on our own. All are welcome! Please call the parish office for the Chapel code.

Divine Will Prayer Group

Are you hungering and thirsting for the Lord. Come. Grow in the knowledge of his most adorable will where you will be filled to overflowing with his love. The group meets on Fridays at 9:45 a.m. Linda Reilly: 821.8982

Centering Prayer /Lectio Divina

One hour of peaceful, silent and beautiful prayer and contemplation. Mondays: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday morning Centering Prayer in the Parish Library

following the morning Mass. Maria Jones: 348.5361

Liturgy of the Hours

Members of the third order of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Lay Carmelites pray the Morning Prayer after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

St. John Charismatic Prayer Group "Blazing Hearts"

Prayer group meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Linda Reilly: 821.8982

PRAYER LIST

We remember those who have died recently, especially:

Ellen Theresa Brady, Marion Dauwer, Jean Elizabeth Diak, Clara Lacatus, Gregory L. Johnson and Joseph Toi Pham

May they rest in eternal peace.

THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

Please pray for our loved ones who are serving in the military:

Cpl. Francisco Alvarenga U.S. Marines	Specialist Douglas Hennessy U.S. Army
Sp. Petrus Botha U.S. Army	Marine Lt. Colonel Brian Howlett USMC
S. Isaiah Brutus U.S. Air Force	Lt. John Meyers U.S. Army
Ensign Stuart Campbell U.S. Navy	LCpl. Randy A. Novak USMC
BM2 Charley Davidson U.S. Navy (USS Samuel B. Roberts)	LCpl. Ryan D. Novak USMC
Adam Decker U.S. Air Force	Ryan D. Novak USMC
Nicholas Detloff U.S. Air Force	Cpt. Daniel Palmer U.S. Army
Sgt. Anthony J. Diamante U.S. Army	Cpt. John Palmer U.S. Army
Joshua Emmons U.S. Air Force	Cpt. Martin Palmer U.S. Army (Afghanistan)
LCpl. Conor Fleurant USMC	Lt. Robert Pedrigi U.S. Army
Lt. Colin Flood U.S. Army, Special Forces	Lt. Joseph Schafer U.S. Army
Lt. Bernardo Garcia U.S. Marines	Pvt. 1st Class Aron Siwek U.S. Army
Lt. Joseph Gilig 1st Marine Division * LAV Recon	Houng Tran U.S. Army
Cpl. Dylan Granza U.S. Army Ranger	IT2 Jason E. Tydingco (USN)
Specialist Shelby Granza U.S. Army	SSGT. Matthew Watson U.S. Air Force (Afghanistan)
Gunnery Sgt. Patrick H. Hammer USMC * Embassy Security (New Zealand)	

AJM Rich Annunizata Fernando Ardila Tomas Ardila Patricia Arpaia Patty Barry Richard Becker Margie Benefico Barbara Berg Linda Berry Jamie Boas Kathleen Bradach Vicki Brenner Carol Brooks John Brooks Anthony Caiazzo Ron Caiazzo Nancy Campbell Steve Caputo Glenn Carroll Sheira Cavanagh Tiffany Chill Frank & Joan Ciccarella Sam Comeriato Bill Copeland Susan Culey Jennifer Cusmano Vivian Daleo Anthony D'Antuono Mark Dabronzo Leo Dauwer Robert Decraene Chuck Dee Florence Demski Rick Derkman Marlene Dezee Jim Diamante Julie Dieter Al DiMenna Lauren Di'Orio Shelly Drummond Dr. Steve Evans Carolyn Felner	Patrick Finck May Flanagan Donna Flynn Anna Focht Follese-Fiedler Family Susan Foster Rois Maire Ni Gabann Jack and Madeline Gaffey Janet Gainey Edward Gaynor Cathy Gelharr Michael & Terry Getty Dick Goepel Laura Harbrough Cindy Harold Brad Harriet Reg Hart Judy Hemond Richard Henning Gerard Heyen Kim Hocker Charlotte Hollohan JMG Maria Joyce Dawn June Charleen Kasabian Chester T. Kauffman Sean Keating Ashley Kelley Kevin Kincaid Bill Kinchla Katie, Johnathan and Hebert Kovacevic Jim Krauser Family Josephine Lancia Joan Lane Ruth Lang Ray & Joan LaPointe Lindsay Lavery Diane Leahy Dan & Louise	LeBlanc Mary Lou and Ned Leibig Mary Lenick Rosemarie Lopez Lillian Luchini Jean Lydon Margie Lynch Pat M Jeanne Macari Julia Maciocia Joan Maier Lynne Malpeli Maria and Family Ann Maniuszko Kenneth J. McAvoy Barbara McCabe Kevin McDonagh Simone McGaffee Mary McKay Lucille McMahon Carolyn McNichols Art Midili Nancy Mitchell Gilbert & Shirley Monacelli Andrew Moss James Murphy Paige Nelson Patricia Norton Roger Nottmeier Gloria Oliver George O'Hara Emma O'Rourke Maryla Panagos Pluc Family Joe Pohrer Richard Pratt Matthew Quinn Linda Reilly Aurelia Rein Ellen Roberts Rea Rossi Robert Sabatka Lisa Sanfelippo	Isolde Scherer Joanne & Edwin Schnackenberg Eli Schneider Leonard Seidl Don Seling Melinda Shannon Jane & Bob Shengulet Teresa Shengulet Marilyn Shields John Smith Winnie Smith Nancy Stewart Susan Stokes Jeannie Stoll Joanmarie Switalski Rita Taranto Marilyn Taylor James Thompson Joseph Tomaszewski Maaria Torres Jennifer Toth Patricia Trapnell Pat Urban Pat Velasquez Lena Vittolo Anne W Patti Wakim Wardein Family Max West Tom Wood Bob Wright John & Mary Yotis Helen Zaks Ed Zerrer Fr. Casimir Zielinski
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LET US PRAY...

To submit a two-week prayer request call 566.8740, or email: info@saintjohntheevangelist.com

DECEMBER 6, 2015 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Knights Honor Bishop Dewane at Vocations Dinner



*photos by
Nancy Curti*

Jubilee Year of Mercy Starts December 8

December 8 marks the start of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, called by Pope Francis to spread the message of mercy throughout the world. The Diocese of Venice will be celebrating the Year of Mercy in various ways. To begin the Jubilee Year, Epiphany Cathedral in Venice and Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Boca Grande will have special "Holy Doors" which will allow pilgrims to receive special indulgences attached to the Year of Mercy.

On Sunday, December 13, Bishop Dewane will celebrate a Solemn Rite of Opening for the Holy Door of Mercy at Epiphany Cathedral during the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses. All are invited to attend. More information regarding Year of Mercy activities in the Diocese will be forthcoming.

Volunteers Needed At Eden Park in Immokalee

Five volunteers are needed to assist children with learning in Eden Park School in Immokalee every Thursday beginning January 7, 2016. If you cannot commit to every week, substitutes are also needed. A teaching background is desirable but not mandatory.

Volunteers are transported by bus, leaving from two locations — Sam's Club and McDonald's on Immokalee Rd. — at 8:00 and 8:15 a.m. respectively. The bus pick-up is at Noon to return to Naples.

If interested in volunteering and have a desire to assist children in need, call Diane Stanley, Volunteer Coordinator, at 239.353.4942.

Save the Date for Milestone Anniversary Mass

All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in two locations: February 13 at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice and March 12 at St. Leo Parish in Bonita Springs. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. Registration will be through the parishes and information will be received by January.

Faith and Wine - Naples

Ladies mark your calendars now for the remainder of the Faith and Wine season here at St. John. Upcoming dates are January 28, February 18, and March 31.

For the Love of Children **Please Support The Ladies of Charity** **Christmas Sneaker and Sock Drive**

*to benefit the needy children of
Naples Park Elementary School
& the children of Immokalee*

Items must be NEW.

Starting: November 21

Goal: 500 Pairs

Ending: December 13

- Ornaments depicting the children's different shoes sizes can be found on Christmas trees in the Narthex.
- Please take an ornament, or two, and generously donate NEW only sneakers and socks.
- Please wrap your package and be sure to attach your ornament to the outside of the gift box.
- You may also write a check to Saint John the Evangelist with "Sneakers Drive" written in the memo line. Your checks can be placed in the collection baskets passed during Mass or taken to the church office.
- Please bring your gift to the church by Sunday, December 13.

Please help us reach our goal of 500 pairs.



5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid

Sunday, December 6, 2015: the Second Sunday of Advent

Opening Song

Shout to the North

Martin Smith

Verse 1) Men of faith, rise up and sing
of the great and glorious King!
You are strong when you feel weak,
In your brokenness, complete (to Chorus)

Verse 2) Rise up, women of the truth
Stand and sing to broken hearts
who can know the healing power
of our awesome King of love (to Chorus)



Shout to the north and the south; sing to the east and the west. Je - sus is



Sav - ior to all, Lord of heav - en and earth.

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Kyrie

• 5A hymnal

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 85) Music by Tom Oram, © 2011 A Chasing After Wind Music (BMI.) All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Response
(cf. Ps 85:8)

Lord, let us see your kind-ness, and grant us your sal - va - tion.

Gospel Acclamation

• 11A hymnal

Preparation Song

How Great Is Our God

Chris Tomlin CCLI Song # 4348399. Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Jesse

Reeves. © 2004 worshiptogether.com songs); sixsteps Music; Wondrously Made Songs (a div of Wondrous Worship & Llano Music, LLC. CCLI License # 2008891.

v1) The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in Light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at his voice, trembles at his voice

v2) Age to age he stands, and time is in his hands
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end
The Godhead, Three in One: Father, Spirit, Son;
The Lion and the Lamb; the Lion and the Lamb!



Chorus

How great ____ is our God! ____ Sing with me: ____ how great is our God!



____ And all ____ will see how great, how great ____ is our God! ____

Bridge) Name above all names, worthy of all praise, My heart will sing, 'How great is our God!' (repeat)

Sanctus

•

19A

Memorial Acclamation (A)

•

20A

Great Amen

•

21A

Agnus Dei

•

24A

Communion Songs **Behold the Lamb of God**

Matt Maher CCLI Song No. 4669755. © 2005

Thankyou Music | spiritandsong.com (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing. Reprinted under LicenSing.Net #U19759 & CCLI License No. 2008891.

Verse

You are my Lord, _____ It's you I a - dore. _____

5 _____ Nothing on earth _____ could e - ver take _____ your place. _____ Your might humbles ev - 'ry _____ heart.

11 _____ The highest of hea - vens _____ bow. _____ Nothing on earth _____ could ev - er take _____ your place. _____ And

Prechorus

now we see your sac - ri - fice, the great - est gift, our great - est prize! Be -

Chorus

hold the Lamb of God! Be - hold the Lamb of God who takes a-way the sins of the world!

441 How Can I Keep From Singing?

American traditional

Closing Song

This Is Amazing Grace Phil Wickham / Jeremy Riddle / Josh Farro

CCLI Song #

6333821. Jeremy Riddle | Josh Farro | Phil Wickham. © 2012 Phil Wickham Music., Seems Like Music, Sing My Songs. WB Music Corp. Bethel Music Publishing. For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. CCLI License # 2008891.

Verse 1) Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?

Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

V.2) Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?

Who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

Verse 3) Who brings our chaos back into order?

Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

V.4) Who rules the nations with truth and justice,

Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?

The King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is a - maz - ing grace, _____ this is un-fail - ing love _____

that You would take my place, _____ that You would bear my cross. _____

You would lay down Your life _____ that I would be set free. _____

_____ Je - sus, I sing _____ for all that You've done _____ for me. _____

prepare ye the way of the Lord



The Word & Life

Second Sunday of Advent: Year C

Baruch 5:1-9

Psalms 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

Preparing a Straight Path

*I*n this second week of Advent we are introduced to the character of John the Baptist. We are told that he traveled the entire region of the Jordan proclaiming a baptism of repentance. John's mission is to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah to, "Prepare the way of the Lord, and make straight his paths." The prophecy of Isaiah is not so much concerned with the winding roads of ancient Israel, but rather the paths people take in their lives. Throughout salvation history people have chosen the fundamental option of God's way or an alternate way. Even those who choose the fundamental

option to journey down the path toward God find themselves veering off course from time to time. John the Baptist reminds the people of his day that it is possible to reach God through repentance and a change of heart. The ultimate journey into God begins with the heart.

When we look back on our lives, we can see specific ways in which we walked with the Lord in our experiences. Still, there may have been times when we chose the wrong path. Most people recognize sin and failure as opportunities to transform their lives. We can all learn from the mistakes of the past that lead to a brighter and more hopeful future. Journeying into Christ secures a hope of a brighter future. In baptism we embrace the light of faith and are given the promise of eternal life. The gospel is the map for our lives, guiding our every step. Jesus' life is an expression of grace that leads directly to the Father. By imitating Christ, we can also journey down that straight path that finds its destination in the Father's house in heaven.

The world is pulling us in many different directions. There are so many distractions that can easily pull

Reflection Questions

1. Identify the paths that you have taken that led you to this day.
2. Name the paths that you chose to take which led you to God.
3. Consider the paths that you have taken that have led you away from God.
4. What is God teaching you through this gospel?
5. What paths are before you now?
6. What does it mean to journey into Christ?
7. Are you ready to make this important journey of the heart?
8. Where will the Advent Season lead you this year?
9. How will you prepare yourself to meet the Lord?
10. How does that impact your life today?

us off our intended course. Even with the best intentions, our commitment to spiritual time during this holy season can easily be forgotten as we are taken in by the consumerist mentality surrounding the Feast of Christmas. The Church throughout the world is calling us to examine the paths we take in our lives. It is reminding us to orient ourselves toward the path that leads to eternal life. As we prepare for the Holy Feast of Christmas, we should all commit ourselves to preparing our hearts to receive Christ once again — perhaps in ways that we never have before.

Prayer

Lord, show us the path of life. May we find the fullness of peace in your presence. Help us to reject the paths that lead us away from your truth. We realize that it takes courage to follow the straight path that leads us to you. Strengthen our faith as we try to make sense of your will in our lives. Amen.

Voices of Faith

Make Straight His Paths

John was his name
A rugged man
Clothed in camel's hair
Locus and honey was his choicest fare
"Prepare a way for The Lord
Make straight his paths."
Was his prophetic call

Make straight his paths?
But numerous were those paths
Of ancient land
Twists and turns in those roads
Where patriarchs and prophets did tread
Worn and created by sinners alike
On a journey forward, awaiting God

Make straight his paths?
John spoke of highways and byways not
But the twists and turns of life
The complexities of heart and soul
Hearts hungering for God's presence
Souls waiting for divine assurance
Man's waiting for peace and fulfillment

Reflecting on the Sunday Readings with Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor



Make straight his paths?
Man asks himself now
Examining the footprints of his life
And how he has used his freedom
Given freely by the Giver of all gifts
Aware of his frailty, weakness and failure
He is called to set his feet upon the journey that leads to God

And so man embarks on the journey of faith
Casting off the robes of misery and grief
He clothes himself with justice and right
Comforted by the warmth of the splendor of God
He is touched by grace
With his feet firmly planted on the road of transformation
His path will surely lead to God

— "Peaceful Moments" by Fr. John J. Ludden

Faith Formation

2015-2016 School Year

CATECHIST SPOTLIGHT

My name is Loren Hoffman.

I've been a Catechist for 6 years, and I teach 1st graders on Sundays.

I was adopted and grew up in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. My parents were devout Christians and members of the First Baptist Church. Despite having a solid Christian foundation, when I left home for college I left God and the church behind. It would be 30 years before I returned to church.

I moved to Naples in 1979 and taught 3rd grade at Naples Park Elementary School for two years. Then I returned to college.

Fast forward. Soon after my Mother's peaceful passing in 2006, I found myself asking "Mother Mary" to adopt me like my first mother. I asked her to put her arms around me and comfort me. At that time, I literally thought the Hail Mary was a football play. I didn't know what a rosary was. I never heard of Fatima.

Fast forward. On Sunday, January 4, 2009, something happened that triggered an urge to go to a church service specifically at Saint John the Evangelist. It was during Fr. John's homily that I had a conversion of the heart. I attended RCIA classes taught by Margie (and George). They helped open my eyes. It was like meeting the real Jesus for the first time. He just popped out of the Holy Bible and came to life. I received the Sacrament of Confirmation during the Easter Vigil, April 3, 2010. I became a Catechist because Margie asked me. I didn't know what a blessing this would be.

On the aside, my adopted Mother's name was Marian. Fr. John said, "Nothing is a coincidence."

I have a Ph.D. in psychology and am a licensed psychologist. I maintain a small private practice in Naples and Fort Myers. My specialty is working with special needs children.

I am so grateful for having this opportunity to teach these little children of God. Every class I ask them, "What's the name of the first church started by Jesus?" I'm so grateful for having found this new home and family in the Catholic Church.

The children and I pray the Hail Mary together every Sunday.



CATECHIST SPOTLIGHT

My name is Monica Gatt.

Originally from Michigan, I've been living in Naples for 25 years. I'm a mother of four beautiful, grown daughters, who live in Naples also. I love our Catholic faith and I love children so being a Catechist is like a dream come true to me.



DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 6 ~** Sunday Faith Formation Class – 9:30-10:45 a.m. and Parent Reconciliation Meeting for Sunday Families 9:30 -10:30 a.m.
- 9 ~** Wednesday Faith Formation Class – 5:45-7:00 p.m. and Parent Reconciliation Meeting for Wednesday Families 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.
- 13 ~** Sunday Faith Formation Class – 9:30-10:45 a.m. High School Confirmation Class 6:15-7:30 p.m.
- 16 ~** Wednesday Faith Formation Class – 5:45-7:00 p.m.
Christmas Holiday for the remainder of the month. Classes resume Wednesday, January 6, 2016.
- **Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays 5:15-5:45 p.m.**

Faith Formation Office Hours

Mondays: 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesdays: 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. (on days of Faith Formation Class only)

Fridays: 9:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Sundays: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. (on days of Faith Formation Class only)

Natalie Campbell,
Director of Religious Education
natalie@sjecc.com 239.566.8740, ext. 3909

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

A meeting for all Parents/Guardians of children receiving First Reconciliation this school year will be held on Sunday, December 6 from 9:30-10:45 a.m. (for Sunday parents) and Wednesday, December 9 from 5:45-7:00 p.m. (for Wednesday parents). The meeting will be held in the Seminar Room of the Claussen Center.

Parents of students who attend private school and are not enrolled in Faith Formation classes may attend either meeting. Please save the date! Nursery care will be provided if needed.

Annual Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious Weekend of December 12 and 13

November, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

During this Year of the Consecrated Life, Pope Francis calls on the faithful to recognize the extraordinary witness that consecrated women and men offer our Church and world. This is indeed a special year for Religious men and women.

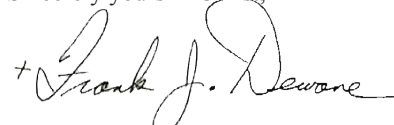
Many retired religious men and women remain active in volunteer ministry, others are frail and need assistance. Often having worked for small stipends, their religious communities struggle to provide adequate care for aging members. This annual appeal benefits some 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct this annual collection for the "Retirement Fund for Religious", the weekend of December 12 and 13, 2015. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and much more. Help is also provided to religious congregations to implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure quality eldercare.

I ask you to join Pope Francis in acknowledging the gift of consecrated life and the men and women who have taught so many of us. Please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and pray for God's Blessing on all religious men and women. Thank you for your generosity!

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family. Have a Blessed Advent Season.

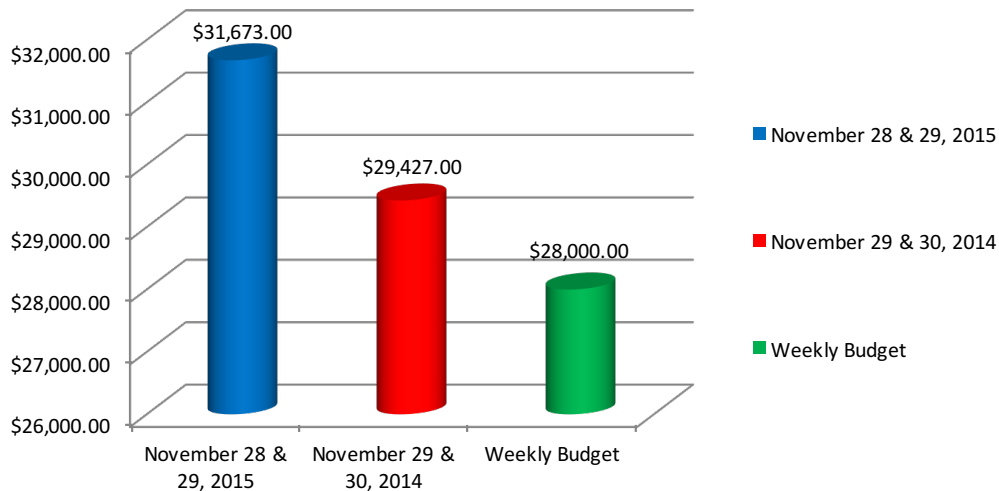
Sincerely yours in Christ,



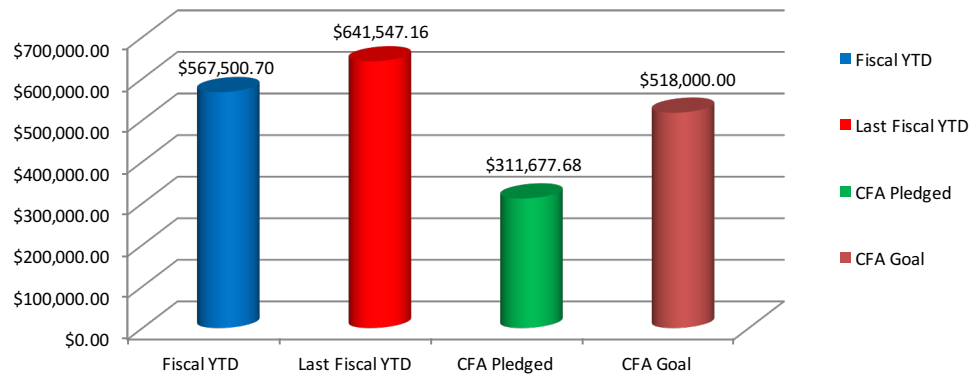
+ Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida



Collection Summary



Fiscal YTD (7/1/2015-6/30/2016) & CFA Summary



St. John Young Adults Offers Community and Fellowship

Young Adults is a vibrant group of men and women from 18-95, single, consecrated and married-with and without kids, seeking community and fellowship to know, to love and to serve God in His church and our community.

The group provides an opportunity for Young Adults to meet out away from the church in order to socialize and engage each other on a monthly basis. They meet at various local establishments to sample the different offerings the Naples area has to offer and to have a chance to talk and get to know each other better.

If you are between the ages of 18-95, and this type of high-spirited, fun, group sounds like it would be a good time, please contact Stephanie Gatt at stephanie@sjecc.com for more information and to join in!

Catholic-Jewish Dialogue

“The Jewish Cardinal” Screening Wednesday, January 6 at St. John

“The Jewish Cardinal” may sound like a punch line, but it accurately describes a real man, Jean-Marie Lustiger, the Paris-born son of Jewish immigrants from Poland, who at 13, bar mitzvah age, converted to Catholicism in the fraught year of 1940.



It is the amazing true story of a man who maintained his cultural identity as a Jew even after converting to Catholicism and joining the priesthood. Lustiger was appointed Archbishop of Paris by Pope Jean Paul II and found a new platform to celebrate his dual identity as a Catholic Jew. When nuns plan to build a convent within the walls of Auschwitz, Lustiger

may be forced at last to choose his side.

This haunting film is about reconciliation, the reconciliation of two faiths, Judaism and Christianity. “The Jewish Cardinal” reminds us of the possibility for goodness if there is respect, love and forgiveness between and among cultures and those of faith.

This family film will be shown in the St. John PLC on Wednesday, January 6, at 7:00 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Please RSVP to cjdialogue@naples.net

image: Le cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger sur le parvis de Notre Dame de Paris le 15 août 1988. source: Claude Truong-Ngoc [CC BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

“The Sunflower” - Sunday, December 6

The Catholic-Jewish Dialogue is also hosting a “One Book Southwest Florida” event on the book **The Sunflower** by Simon Wiesenthal. Subtitled “Exploring the Limits and Possibilities of Forgiveness.” The event will be held at St. Peters Catholic Church Ministry Center, 5025 Rattlesnake Hammock Rd. at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 6.

Please RSVP to cjdialogue@naples.net

Advent Penance Services – Local Area Churches

St. Ann – Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m.
985 Third Street South, Naples

St. Finbarr – Monday, December 14, at 5:00 p.m.
13520 Tamiami Trail East, Naples

St. Agnes – Tuesday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m.
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples

St. Peter the Apostle –
Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.
5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples

San Marco – Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m.
851 San Marco Road, Marco Island

St. William – Friday, December 18, at 5:30 p.m.
601 Seagate Drive, Naples

St. Elizabeth Seton – Monday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m.
2730 53rd Ter Sw, Naples

St John the Evangelist –
Tuesday, December 22 at 7:00 p.m.

project rachel

Peace starts here

H:OPE

AFTER + ABORTION

One-day Retreat
Sunday, January 24, 2016

For confidential information
call:

Fonda at 239-719-7210 (cell)

e-mail:

Fonda.rachel@gmail.com

or

project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org

www.hopeafterabortion.com



Sponsored by Diocese of Venice
Respect Life Office
1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, FL 34285
941-441-1101
www.dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife

Respect
LIFE

Adult Faith Formation

& RCIA

Being Catholic

More than 50 adult Catholics, St. John parishioners just like you, found time in their busy schedules this fall to participate in Adult Faith Formation. Men and women gathered at lunch time or in the evening in a quest to develop a mature faith; a faith that enables them to relate to the complexities and ambiguities of the ever-changing postmodern world in which we all live.

For many of them religious education and formation ended when they were confirmed. Although they may be highly educated they were still operating with the religion they received as a child and found it quite difficult to address adult questions with eighth grade answers.

They traveled around the world and deep into their faith by participating in the multi-media study program based on the documentary film series **CATHOLICISM**, created and hosted by Bishop Robert Barron.

The **CATHOLICISM** program will be repeated this winter for those who did not attend in the fall, or would like to make up any missed sessions. **You are invited** to hear for yourself precisely what the Church believes and why. **You are invited** to see the artistic and architectural splendor of the Catholic Faith interpreted in light of the mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

Beginning in January you have the opportunity to watch the award-winning DVD presentations and then discuss them, both to increase your understanding and to explore the application to your life in the world today. Certainly watching the DVDs at home is good, but it is only through group discussion and reflection that information leads to Christian formation.

This program begins January 6. It will be offered at two times of day to enable more parishioners to fit it into their schedules. One session will be at lunchtime (11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) on Wednesdays — bring a brown-bag lunch, refreshments will be provided. The other session will be on Thursday evenings (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.) and again refreshments will be provided. Both sessions will meet in the Seminar Room of the Claussen Family Center. You can attend either session, or at lunchtime some weeks and in the evening others.

Registration is only \$25 and includes your own copy of the **CATHOLICISM** Study Guide and Workbook. (Financial assistance is available if needed.) To register online go to www.sjecc.com and click on “Ways to Give”, or stop by the Parish Office and complete the Registration Form.

Becoming Catholic

Following a period during which they investigated what it means to be Catholic and explored the process to come into full communion with the Catholic Church, a number of Inquirers will become Candidates or Catechumens through the Rite of Acceptance or Welcome.

This liturgical rite, which will be celebrated at the 9:00 a.m. Mass this weekend on Sunday, December 6, marks the beginning of the catechumenate period for them. During this liturgical rite the Candidates will express, and the Saint John the Evangelist community will accept, their intention to respond to God’s call to follow the way of Christ.

This period is one of nurturing and growing in faith. In some ways it is comparable to “going steady”, a time to date one person exclusively and get to know them better with the intention of a long-term relationship.

During this catechumenate period they will focus on an encounter with God in the sacraments and the moral life leading to Baptism, for those not already baptized, Confirmation, and Communion at the Easter Vigil to be celebrated in late March.

The entire parish community is called to help these Candidates and Catechumens by its love and prayer.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

A special preparation program for adult baptized Catholics who have not been confirmed will be offered in the spring. Watch this page for details.

More information about any of these programs can be obtained by contacting Jack Kindsvater, Adult Faith Formation and RCIA Coordinator. Call 239.566.8740, ext. 3918 or email jack@sjecc.com.

SVdP Food Drive Donations Fill Two-Ton Truck

The Saint Vincent de Paul Conference at St. John held a very successful food drive the past November 21-22. They were able to fill a two-ton truck with hundreds of filled grocery bags. These items will be distributed by the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

We are thankful and grateful to our parishioners who despite intermittent rain showers didn't forget "to feed the hungry and give drink to the thirsty" as the Lord commands. We are also thankful to those who gave us checks and cash to support our ministry.

Our young Cub Scout parishioners helped those arriving with bags.

*submitted by Bill Smart
Saint Vincent de Paul*



Christmas Spiritual Bouquet



For the Intentions of

Living _____

Deceased _____

Your donation will furnish the Sanctuary with flowers during the Christmas season and your loved ones will be remembered in the Christmas Spiritual Bouquet during the Christmas Masses. **DROP THE FORM AND DONATION IN THE COLLECTION BASKET OR DROP OFF AT THE PARISH OFFICE DURING BUSINESS HOURS.**

For your convenience, envelopes are also available in the Narthex.

Donor Name _____ \$ _____

St. John Helps Feed 1,700 People in Immokalee During Thanksgiving in the Park

What an amazing week of giving from our Parish Family to the local community! First, hundreds of bags of groceries were delivered by our parishioners to our church for Saint Vincent de Paul Society Thanksgiving Food Pantry support. Then, on Tuesday, over 35 turkeys were brought by our parishioners in preparation for the annual Thanksgiving in the Park.

This massive volunteer service program has been in operation for over 30 years now, and this year, St. John was asked to lead the religious organizations' support. On Wednesday, November 25, over 100 volunteers from churches all over the area helped pull turkey and set up mashed potatoes. Special thanks should be given for Lou Altieri and the Knights of Columbus Council 11281, and the Ladies of Charity. Both groups came together and gave of their time and efforts to make sure Thursday would work perfectly.

Due to their hard work, the Thanksgiving in the Park volunteers were able to feed on Thanksgiving Day over 1,700 people, 400 more than last year.

Thank you to everyone who helped and contributed. We hope each year to grow this program and help even more people!





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