

December 25, 2016

The Nativity of the Lord



the
EVANGELIST
SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Let Us Allow Christ's Light Into Our Lives

Christmas 2016

Dear Friends of Saint John the Evangelist,

The Christmas Season is always such a special time of the year. The singing of carols and the decorations that surround our church and homes evoke so many powerful memories of Christmas past. It is always a joy to watch children and families celebrate together an event that has brought together millions of people for countless centuries. As we grow older, the singing of "Silent Night" touches the heart as we remember those who are no longer with us. Their absence is felt and their memory so dear as we enter the mystery of Christmas.

The event of the Incarnation reminds all of us that God wants to be with us to love us, to heal us, and to change our lives. The Christ-Child's humble birth in a manger in Bethlehem shows us how God made himself vulnerable to us in order that we could experience Him in the vulnerability of our lives. The Christmas story is not merely a fairy tale of shepherds and angels, but an encounter in which God enters a world of darkness to bring it light. God is in the midst of our families offering that same light. God is with the vulnerable old and the vulnerable young. He is in the hungry rich and the hungry poor. God is present in the stories of our own lives and in our struggles and joys. We allow God's light into our lives by allowing Jesus' wisdom to shape and dictate our lives.

So many people at Saint John the Evangelist Parish work together to bring light into our community's life. The various ministries and groups truly live the parish mission to know, to love, and to serve God in the ways in which they reach out to others. I offer my prayers of gratitude to God to all who offer their time in service to God and others. To all those who work diligently on our staff, along with the priests and deacons, I say thank you for all that you do!

May Christ's light continue to shine in and through you all. Be assured of my prayers and blessings for you and your families.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. John J. Ludden



625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108 • Phone 239.566.8740 • Fax 239.566.9117
www.sjecc.com • E-mail: info@sjecc.com

Daily Mass: 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.; Wednesday 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 (SI) Requested by

December 24, 2016 Saturday

8:00 AM + Steve Holden John & Maureen Wurtz

Vigil Masses for Christmas

3:00 PM + Ozzie D'Addario Janet D'Addario
5:00 PM + Shea & Barrett Family Kathleen Shea
10:00 PM + Sharon K. McCarthy Joseph McCarthy

December 25, 2016 Sunday - Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:00 AM + DeFrancesca/Val Family Peter DeFrancesca
9:00 AM + Mass for the Unborn Respect for Life Committee
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners
1:15 PM + William & Beatrice Lyons Douglas O'Connor
& Eugene Lena O'Connor

Wine and Host in Memory of Raymond Leclere ~ requested by Lorraine Leclere

December 26, 2016 Monday

8:00 AM + Sharon K. McCarthy Joseph McCarthy
9:00 AM + Jean & Anthony DeCesare Kay Reid

December 27, 2016 Tuesday

8:00 AM SI Theresa Mielke Syvana
9:00 AM + Peggy Kegaly Jack Kegaly

December 28, 2016 Wednesday

8:00 AM + Christine Hinchley Dolores Kernochan
9:00 AM + Donna Dennison Hanley & Mary Wheeler
6:30 PM + Katie Johanni Jeff Kies

December 29, 2016 Thursday

8:00 AM + Katie Johanni Amy McCormish
9:00 AM + Lillian Davis Husband Dave Davis

December 30, 2016 Friday

8:00 AM + Mary Margaret Sutton Portnoy & Killen Family
9:00 AM + Alfonso, Beatrice & Candida Vitiello Portnoy & Killen Family

December 31, 2016 Saturday

8:00 AM + William Lawrence Portnoy Portnoy & Killen Family

Vigil Masses for Sunday

3:00 PM SI Frank & Mary Lou Kreber Molly Scott
5:00 PM + Galle & McAveney Families Mr. & Mrs. Galle

January 1, 2017 Sunday - Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:00 AM + Nancy Meleo Jean Meleo
9:00 AM + Fr. Al McPartland Dennis & Fran Powers
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners
1:15 PM + Harold Courtney Jean Meleo
5:00 PM + Judith & Thomas Growe The Stephen Family

SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 24, 2016

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Lk 1:67-79

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

The Vigil of Christmas

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7;

Lk 2:15-20

Sunday, December 25, 2016

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; n 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Monday, December 26, 2016

St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab,
16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Tuesday, December 27, 2016

St. John

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday, December 28, 2016

The Holy Innocents

1 Jn 1:5 – 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Thursday, December 29, 2016

St. Thomas Becket; Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40

Friday, December 30, 2016

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17];

Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday, December 31, 2016

St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve; Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

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 and to Landmark Hospital, North Naples on Wednesday and Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS...

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Campaign Corner

December 25, 2016

*“Christmas is joy, religious joy, an inner joy
of light and peace.”*

— Pope Francis



A Capital Campaign for
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Life Center Breaks Ground March 18, 2017!

It is official! With the Bishop’s blessing and schedule finalized, along with the timeline of construction determined, Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church will officially move forward with our Life Center on March 18, 2017! This is a momentous time for our Parish Family, and we hope all of you will be able to join us in this celebration. The Life Center, with persistent programs, activities, and events for all ages, will focus on sports, wellness, arts, music, and social connections for the entire community. Gym space will have classes and Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) sports. Dancing and music classes will be for every level and age. We will have concerts and plays on our stage. The café will host open mic nights and happy hours. It will be open for all, and we are looking forward to the future that includes all these opportunities to enrich our lives. If this is the first you are hearing about our Life Center, I welcome you to take a look at our website for all the background, including the fly-through video and explanation of this enlivening space: <http://www.sjecc.com/future>.

There is a very special reason we chose that date, aside from the scheduling of the Bishop. It is also the date for the very first Gaelic and Garlic Festival in Naples ever! (*See page 10*) With Saint Patrick’s Day and Saint Joseph’s Feast on the same weekend, how could we not have a massive celebration of Irish and Italian culture, food, music, dance, and festivities all at the same time? Stay tuned for more details on this weekend festival, and how we will have the Ground Breaking as the center point of this joyous celebration.

As we **Build Our Future, Serve Our Past**, we still need all the prayers and support of our Parish Family to reach our Pinnacle Goals. 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 our Capital Campaign at: <http://www.sjecc.com/future>.



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

PARISH CLERGY



Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor

Fr. Robert Murphy	Associate
Fr. Paul D'Angelo	Associate
Deacon Hal Brenner	
Deacon Forrest Wallace	
Deacon Frank Panicia	Senior Status

Altar Servers:

Jean-Paul Boucher jp@sjecc.com

Arts & Liturgical Environment:

Kay and Andy Sanfelippo 949.7122

Eucharistic Ministry

Maureen Reed EMMinistry@sjecc.com

Homebound

Call the Office 566.8740

Hospital

Mary Ellen Metro maryellen@sjecc.com

Lectors Ministry

lectors@sjecc.com

Greeters & Ushers:

Bill Fuller wfuller1@comcast.net
239.280.8870

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. *Deborah Marsh: 566.8740*

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. *Tricia Schwarz: 566.8740*

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: *Ext. 3910*

Fax: 239.566.9117

jp@sjecc.com

Assistant to the Pastor

Tricia Schwarz

Parish Secretary

Deborah Marsh

Front Office Manager

Kathy Mooney

Pastoral Musician and Liturgist

Gary Prettyman

Artistic Director

Jennine Fuentes

Sacristan & Martha's Guild

Lan Tran

Director of Family Mission

Jean-Paul Boucher

Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor

Kathy Sims

CYO Social and Spiritual

Coordinator

Kyle VanDuser

Memorial Garden

Jean-Paul Boucher

Bookkeeper

Karen Beebe

Religious Boutique

Elaine deLaurentis, *Ext. 3921*

Maintenance

566.8740

Education Staff

Director of Religious Education

Natalie Campbell: *Ext. 3904 and 3909*

Coordinator, Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Jack Kindsvater: *Ext. 3918*

email staff members at:

info@sjecc.com

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@sjecc.com

Thank you!

*For complete information on the Sacraments, please visit our website:

www.sjecc.com

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108

Phone: 239.566.8740 • Fax: 239.566.9117

www.sjecc.com

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 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday 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

Choirs:

Adult Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Residents and seasonals welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Children's Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Wednesdays, 5:00 to 5:45 p.m. Grades

1-5. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Contemporary Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Sundays, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Grades 6-12

especially welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Hospitality. 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: 239.592.7973* or *Darlene*

Follese: 495.9741

Divine Gift Boutique (located across from the

restrooms). **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, contact *Elaine: 566.8740*.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Parish Registration Forms are available on the tables in the church narthex, in the parish office and on the website: www.sjecc.com

Mass Intentions. We are now accepting 2017 intentions.

Altar Flowers and/or Host & Wine. We have 2017 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... OPERATIONAL

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Pre-K/Atrium Children Spent Advent Time Learning About the Prince of Peace

The children in the Pre-K/Atrium class have been preparing their hearts for the birth of Jesus in the feast of Christmas. We had an Advent procession with the Advent wreath, candles and the purple prayer table cloth which replaced the green prayer table cloth. Purple is the color of “preparation”. Each week another candle on the Advent wreath has been lit and one of the Prophecy Cards is read. We have heard from the prophet Isaiah proclaiming the “Light” who will come to the people who walked in darkness as well as another Prophecy Card telling us all the beautiful names of the child who is to come “Wonderful Counselor”, ‘Mighty God’ ‘Everlasting Father’, ‘Prince of Peace’. We have also read from the Bible about the events in the Annunciation and learned about where the events surrounding Jesus’ birth took place in the Land of Israel.

*text and photos submitted by Charlotte Williams,
Pre-K/Atrium Coordinator*



*Clara Bowles -
Nativity Work*



*Noelle Martin -
Altar Pasting Work*



*Oliver Martin - Merchant
& The Pearl Parable*



David Baier - Art Work



*Trip Steven -
Altar Pasting Work*



*Trip Steven - Land
of Israel Work*



*Mariandrea Moran -
Altar Area Work*



*Jacob Barbale - Practical Life,
Window Washing*



*Jacob Barbale -
Altar Area Matching Work*

#ToLove – Merry Christmas!

Welcome, one and all, to Saint John the Evangelist. We are blessed to have you here with us, no matter if you are part of our Parish Family and come to Daily Mass, or if this is the first time you have ever stepped foot in a Catholic Church. The love, joy, and healing grace of our faith and our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you today and always!

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has helped the world see the Catholic Church as the beacon of respect and mercy for the world, and his words from last Christmas still ring true about our focus on humanity:

Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of this day, which is Christ himself. Jesus is the radiant “day” which has dawned on the horizon of humanity. A day of mercy, in which God our Father has revealed his great tenderness to the entire world. A day of light, which dispels the darkness of fear and anxiety. A day of peace, which makes for encounter, dialogue and, above all, reconciliation. A day of joy: a “great joy” for the poor, the lowly and for all the people (cf. Lk 2:10)...

Where God is born, hope is born. He brings hope. Where God is born, peace is born. And where peace is born, there is no longer room for hatred and for war. Yet precisely where the incarnate Son of God came into the world, tensions and violence persist, and peace remains a gift to be implored and built. May Israelis and Palestinians resume direct dialogue and reach an agreement which will enable the two peoples to live together in harmony, ending a conflict which has long set them at odds, with grave repercussions for the entire region...

Where God is born, hope is born; and where hope is born, persons regain their dignity. Yet even today great numbers of men and woman are deprived of their human dignity and, like the child Jesus, suffer cold, poverty, and rejection. May our closeness today be felt by those who are most vulnerable, especially child soldiers, women who suffer violence, and the victims of human trafficking and the drug trade.

Nor may our encouragement be lacking to all those fleeing extreme poverty or war, travelling all too often in inhumane conditions and not infrequently at the risk of their lives. May God repay all those, both individuals and states, who generously work to provide assistance and welcome to the numerous migrants and refugees, helping them to build a dignified future for themselves and for their dear ones, and to be integrated in the societies which receive them.

On this festal day may the Lord grant renewed hope to all those who lack employment – and they are so many!; may he sustain the commitment of those with public responsibilities in political and economic life, that they may

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



work to pursue the common good and to protect the dignity of every human life.

Where God is born, mercy flourishes. Mercy is the most precious gift which God gives us, especially during this Jubilee year in which we are called to discover that tender love of our heavenly Father for each of us. – Pope Francis 12/25/15 (https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/urbi/documents/papa-francesco_20151225_urbi-et-orbi-natale.html)

God bless you, your families, and your loved ones this Christmas. We look forward to seeing you here at St. John in the coming years as we develop new and renewed programs to enliven the community of Naples with Catholic Youth Organization and Catholic Adult Organization, with activities for every person at every age. More information about the future of our faith can be found on our website, <http://sjecc.com>.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

#ToKnow – CFA Status Update: CFA Last Hurrah Weekend Results

As we focus on our Catholic Faith Appeal Assessment Goal, I will be providing a short summary of where we stand on a weekly basis. These updates may be a week or so behind, so we will also provide them on our website, so please visit <http://sjecc.com> for the most up-to-date information.

Thank you for all your generosity in both understanding and supporting the CFA Assessment Goal for Saint John the Evangelist. It is a necessary component of our service to the Southwest Florida community, and I am very proud to report that we were able to raise over \$47,422.00 during the Last Hurrah Weekend, December 10-11, which reduces our shortfall to under \$138,184. If you were still considering a gift to support the CFA, please let me know if you have any questions and I am happy to answer them.

The staff at
 Saint John the Evangelist
 wishes all of our parishioners
 and their families and friends
 a joyous Christmas
 and a happy and healthy 2017.

Merry Christmas.

Mass Times ~ New Year

Saturday, December 31

Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

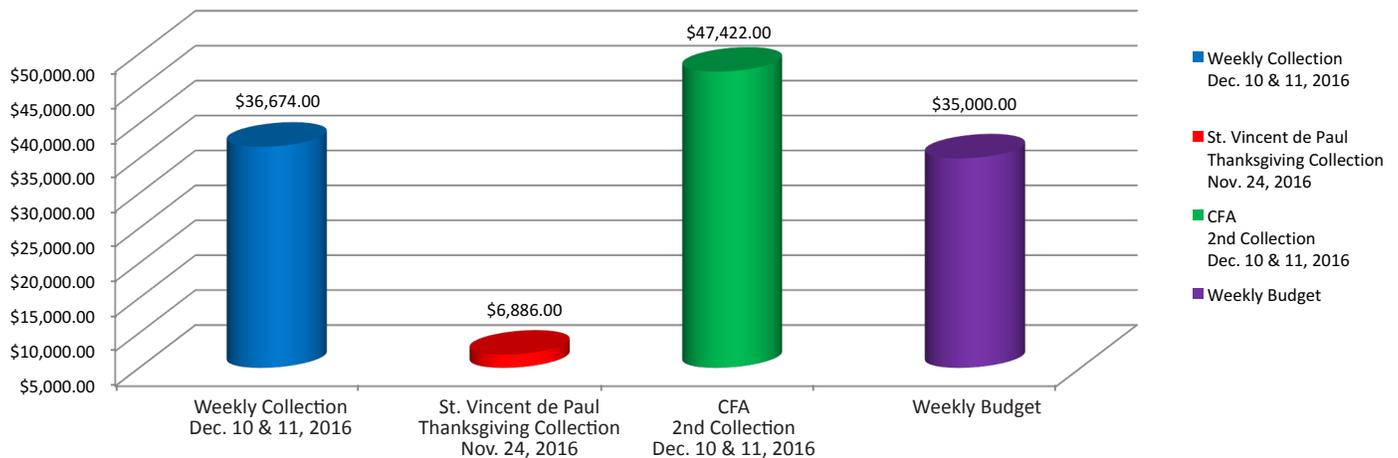
Sunday, January 1, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m.,
 1:15 p.m.; 5:00 p.m.

The 2017 Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Calendar is available this weekend. Don't forget to pick up your copy.

Weekly Collection Summary



CFA Summary



**Please note the "CFA Pledged" amount listed above does NOT include the CFA second collection from December 10 - 11, 2016.*

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the holidays on the following days: Monday, December 26; Friday, December 30; and Monday, January 2.

Passion and Purpose for Marriage Retreat

St. John is hosting a Passion and Purpose for Marriage Retreat and invites couples for a great evening of listening, learning, scripture and prayer, all dedicated towards learning how to live and stay in love as a couple with your faith. The retreat will be Saturday, January 28, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. This is a unique opportunity to learn and grow as a person of faith who strives to love in all their relationships. Dr. Allen Hunt will be the speaker. For tickets go to www.dynamiccatholic.com/naples.

Bereavement. Attend funeral Masses and memorial services to provide support and compassion. Take turns serving lunch for the family and friends after a funeral Mass. Grief facilitators hold support groups as needed to give support to those suffering a loss. *For Arimatheans: Elaine: 566.8160. For Grief Support Ministry: 566.8740*

Boy Scout Troop 226 – St. John the Evangelist. Prepare boys to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. *scoutmaster@troop-226.com*

Buildings and Grounds Council. The scope of the Buildings and Grounds Council is to provide future direction, advice, and insight for the physical plant of Saint John the Evangelist, to include all buildings, the grounds, and all utilities therein. The Council will meet quarterly to evaluate any long-term strategy planning that is required to provide such a large and complex environment with multiple purposes.

Catholic/Jewish Dialogue. Engage Catholics and Jews in understanding our past history and to advance the cause of mutual understanding and appreciation for our differences as well as our commonalities. *Marty Gauthier: marty@naples.net*

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. To promote a sense of love and belonging for every member of our Parish Community by offering transportation to church services regardless of age, infirmity, marital or socioeconomic status. To sign up for a ride or to become a volunteer driver: *566.8740 or Beth Lucci at 877.6254 or sjeride@gmail.com*

Cub Scout Pack 226 – Chartered at St. John the Evangelist. Provide families with an opportunity to raise their young boys in the way of Jesus and through the formative values of Scouting. Meets on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. *pack226naples@gmail.com*

Divorced and Separated Support Group. Whether separated/divorced 10 days ago or 10 years ago, sign up now for our 12-week DVD series/group discussions to help you along your path to Spiritual Healing. Series runs Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Claussen Family Center starting September 7 through December 7. (No class Thanksgiving week). *Lhara Echeverria: 293.3694 or Lhara@sjecc.com or Beth Lucci: 877.6254*

Faith and Wine. Provide interesting and thought provoking speakers monthly with food and fellowship for women in the Diocese. *Nancy Squitieri: mamasquit@yahoo.com*

Finance Council. The Finance Council is an integral part of the Stewardship responsibilities of the parish. The council assists the Pastor and General Manager in their deliberation and decision-making process in order to serve the needs of the Parish in the prudent administration of its resources and funds. *President: Barbara Kuryea*

Habitat for Humanity. Build homes in Naples for qualifying families in need. *Nick Koullouheras: nick@hfhcollier.com*

Jamaica Outreach Program. JOP has been an integral part of Saint John the Evangelist since 1997. Our mission is to help the poor in Jamaica. JOP provides goods, food, medical-vision-dental services, education and basic support to improve the lives of the poor in Jamaica. We welcome new volunteers. For more info: *Jeanne Stamant (season) 514.0290 (summer 248.3248). To volunteer: Martha Mador 860.449-2105*

Knights of Columbus St. John Council 11281. Worldwide Catholic men's fraternal organization founded on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. St. John's Council provides regular financial support for our seminarians and our parish. Knights also conduct a wide variety of activities to enhance and strengthen family life in the parish. Meets first Monday of the month. Officers at 6:30 p.m.; business meeting at 7:15 p.m. Next social meeting is October 24. Visiting Knights are welcome. *Bill Warvel, Grand Knight: 331.7151*

Knights of Columbus Arthur J. Corr Assembly 3308. Meets second Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Visiting Knights are invited. *S/K Jim McDonald: 947.6454*

Knitting & Crocheting. Knits and crochets to benefit those in need. Make baby hats booties and blankets for babies, lap robes for nursing homes, prayer shawls, baptismal blankets and sweaters for kids. Meets year-round on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. - Noon. no experience necessary. *Vicki Brenner: 498.9900*

Ladies of Charity. Volunteer in Immokalee schools, the Guadalupe soup kitchen and clothing bank. The Ladies also visit local nursing homes to assist residents who want to attend Mass. In addition, they are available to provide friendly visits and to perform simple errands for the elderly and homebound. Meets the second Friday of every month. *Homebound: Diane Pesce: 630.571.0707. To join: MarieElaina Mullin: 273.1702*

Men's Club and Ladies Auxiliary. Organizes, cooks, orders and serves food and beverages and otherwise provides staff and support for a multitude of parish and parish-related functions. It hosts the parish picnic, Children Easter Egg Hunt, and the men work closely with the Family Ministry at many of their events. Monthly meetings 2:00 p.m. on the second Thursday from October to May. *Jack Nalipinski: 412.613.3551*

Parish Nurse Ministry. Dedicated to the support and encouragement of wellness and health of the St. John Parish Family via monthly seminars on health topics. Illustrates how taking care of your body helps take care of your spirit and your soul. *Sue Townsend: sue@sjecc.com*

Pastoral Stewardship Council. The major responsibilities of St. John's stewardship program falls under the purview of the Pastoral Stewardship Council. The Council's mission is to create awareness of God's gifts of time, talent and treasure and to encourage their use to the best of one's ability for the good of the Parish. The Council has three major subcommittees: Hospitality, Sharing, and Time and Talent. *Council President: Rick Beebe: psc@sjecc.com*

Respect Life. Educates and informs the parish community on all aspects of respect life, which include the unborn, mothers who have had abortions, the elderly, mentally challenged, the physically challenged, the imprisoned, and the terminally ill and the poor and hungry. *Rosemary Erickson: 597.3941*

Sewing Ministry. Meets to sew for needy children of Collier County on Wednesdays 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. from October to May. The Sewing Ministry meets in the Youth Room of the Claussen Family Center. New members welcome. We accept fabric and notions as well as monetary donations. *Phyllis Crivelli: 594.1148 or Barbara Arthur: 250.4162*

St. Vincent de Paul. To help the poor, specifically people in zip codes 34108, 34109 and 34110. Members work in teams making home visits to those in need. Many times it means helping individuals with rent payment, late electrical or water bills, prescription needs and food. Meets first and third Tuesdays after 8:00 a.m. Mass. *SVdP Office: 775.1667*

Vocations Ministry. Vocations are a calling from God and each of us has one, from single or married life to religious life. Help the Parish Family educate and identify vocations through prayer and activities. *Marty Gautier: marty@naples.net*

Women of the Word (WoW). We welcome any woman of any age to study our faith using the Bible and other Catholic writings in a non-judgmental, supportive community. Thursday 9:30 a.m. *Nancy Bouchard: 443.498.8452 or nancybdh@hotmail.com*

PRAYER GROUPS

Pray The Rosary & The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Cenacle of Life Prayer Group

Patricia Bucalo: 248.0694

Divine Will Prayer Group

Gorana Saner: 293.1765

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina

Mondays: Maria Jones: 348.5361

Wednesday morning will resume in the fall.

Liturgy of the Hours

Phyllis Gryskiewicz: 566.7307

St. John Charismatic Prayer Group "Blazing Hearts"

Linda Reilly: 821.8982

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

Lt. John Meyers
U.S. Army

Sp. Petrus Botha
U.S. Army

LCpl. Randy A. Novak
USMC

S. Isaiah Brutus
U.S. Air Force

LCpl. Ryan D. Novak
USMC

Ensign Stuart Campbell
U.S. Navy

Ryan D. Novak
USMC

BM2 Charley Davidson
U.S. Navy (USS Samuel B. Roberts)

Cpt. Daniel Palmer
U.S. Army

Adam Decker
U.S. Air Force

Cpt. John Palmer
U.S. Army

Nicholas Detloff
U.S. Air Force

Cpt. Martin Palmer
U.S. Army
(Afghanistan)

Joshua Emmons
U.S. Air Force

Lt. Robert Pedrigo
U.S. Army

LCpl. Conor Fleurant
USMC

Lt. Joseph Schafer
U.S. Army

Lt. Colin Flood
U.S. Army, Special Forces

Pvt. 1st Class Aron Siwek
U.S. Army

Lt. Bernardo Garcia
U.S. Marines

Lt. Jr. Gabriella Scrudato
U.S. Coast Guard

Lt. Joseph Gilig
1st Marine Division
* LAV Recon

MidShipman Micaela Scrudato
U.S. Naval Academy

Cpl. Dylan Granza
U.S. Army Ranger

Spc. Andrew Smith
U.S. Army (Kuwait)

Spc. Shelby Granza
U.S. Army

Spc. Devin Snyder
U.S. Army (Ft. Drum, NY)

Gunnery Sgt. Patrick H. Hammer
USMC * Embassy Security (New Zealand)

Houng Tran
U.S. Army

Spc. Douglas Hennessy
U.S. Army

IT2 Jason E. Tydingco
(USN)

Staff Sgt. Brian Holmes
U.S. Army (Iraq)

Staff Sgt. Brandon Waithe
U.S. Air Force

Marine Colonel Brian Howlett USMC

Staff Sgt. Andrew Zecchino
U.S. Air Force

2nd Lt. Sean Kealey
U.S. Army

OUTREACH & OTHER GROUPS

AA. Robert: 239.287.2442

Al-Anon. Carol: 804.306.5323 and Juliette: Lysack

Narcotics Anonymous.

Cursillistas. Robyn DeVille: 253.6275 or robyndeville@earthlink.net

Mah Jong. Space Limited. Lanelle Bishop: 352.1860

Pinochle. Joseph DeJesus: 598.9865

Recovering Couples Anonymous. Britta: 348.5031 or Roger: 250.6888

PRAYER LIST

We remember those who have died recently, especially:

Marilyn A. Dorsch, Donna Lee Turner Dunn, Mary Howie and Tony Zoglio

May they rest in eternal peace.

Please pray for those on our prayer list below as well as those whose names appear on our online Prayer List at <http://saintjohntheevangelist.com/ministries/prayer-list>.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by PRAYER and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. – Philippians 4:6

Antoinette and Nicholas Acquiviva
ADD

Steve Allender

Frank Angilella

Rich Annunziata

Fernando Ardila

Thomas Ardila

Paschal Arpaia

Paul Arpaia

Jean & Emmunale Balliro

Richard Becker

Margie Benefico

Barbara Berg

Gallen Boardman

Joe Bordelon

Teresa Brecht

Doug Callen

Carrie

Susan Chiappini

Tiffany Chill

Eric Christensen

Joan Ciccarelli

Dick Clark

Sam and Frank Comeriato

Fr. Gerard Critch

Kathryn Gallagan-Culp

Anthony D'Antuono

Mark Dabronzo

Donald Dempski

Florence Demski

Sandra Demski

Bernadette Dennis

DF

Carey Eliason

Pat Erhadt

Coletta Farina

John Farrell

John Farrow,

Wendy Bui Fewell

Follese/Fiedler Family

Donna Flynn

Anna Focht

Fran

Galloway Family

Edward Gaynor

Roberta George

Emma Gilardi

Carlos D. Gomez

George Gonser Jr

Joe Goss

Keri Grasso

Harry Grevey

Glenn Griffin

Margi Hearson

Gerard Heyen

Kim Hocker

Donald Howe

JM

JRM

NC

Neil King

Krista Leigh Kozowyk

Jim Krauser & Family

John Kuryea

Lindsay Lavery

Estelle LeChelavier

Rene Lacoste

Mary Lou Leibig

Delk Lindaman

Logan

Jack Lucarelli

Jean Lydon

Margie Lynch

Richard Lyncheski

Maria and Family

Ron Marlow

Ross Mart

Marisa Mazza

Kenneth J. McAvoy

Kevin McDonagh

Carolyn McDonald

Paul McIntyre

Carolyn McNichols

James Meleo

Jean Meleo

Lorrie Morrison

Maxine Newman

Marylee Olsen

Emma O'Rourke

Maryla Panagos

Charles Parente Family

Michael Paul

Babe Pelli

Elizabeth Perez

Anne Perrino

Petric Family

Ann Petrillo

Pileggi Family

Georgia Pinto

Irene Pires

Thad Pluc

Bill Porter

Norjean Ray

John Reardon

Aurielia Rein

Cindy Renner

Peter Renner

Allan Ring

RLC

Susie Romanovich

Jean Ruel

Lloyd Sample

Lisa Sanfelippo

Shelia Scaduto

Peter Scariati

Mary Schell

Eli Schneider

Breana Short

Thomas Sissman

John Smith

Solazzo Family

JoAnne Spehn

Anthony Spinella

Nancy Stewart

Rita Taranto

William J. Teplica

Domonic Terrogrossa

Gary Tester

John Thyen

Logan Uzzi

Lawrence Varone

Vera Weinstein

Nancy Wise

Bob Wright

Ed Zerrer

Zoe

LET US PRAY... To submit a one-month prayer request call 566.8740, or email: prayerlist@sjecc.com When submitting a name for Prayer List, please make sure you have that individual's permission.

DECEMBER 25, 2016 ~ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

SAVE THE DATE!



GAELIC AND GARLIC FESTIVAL

March 18-19, 2017

All Day Both Days

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Naples, FL

- Pub Grub • Pizza • Corned Beef & Cabbage • Green Beer •
- Italian Wine • Opera Music • Tir Na Nog Irish Step Dancers •
- Tarantella Italian Dancing • Meatball Cook-off •
- Meatball Eating Contest • 5k Fun • Car Raffle • & more •



More Information Will Be Forthcoming.

Hymns for the Nativity of Our Savior, December 24 & 25, 2016

Prelude Hymn:	93	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Entrance Hymn:	83	O Come, All Ye Faithful
		<i>(Verses 1, 4 - Adeste Fideles, 2 & 3)</i>
Pageant Hymn (5pm):	79	Joy to the World
Preparation Hymns:	78	Away in a Manger
Christmas Eve (5pm)	92	O Come Little Children
	100	O Little Town of Bethlehem
	90	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
Communion Hymns:	85	Of the Father's Love Begotten
(Optional Hymn)	91	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
	88	Silent Night
Closing Hymn:	81	Angels We Have Heard on High
	79	Joy to the World

Merry Christmas! From the entire St. John the Evangelist Music Department, we wish you a very Holy and Blessed Christmas Season. Thank you for your support of our music, your kind words, and most of all for lending your voices in worship of the God we all serve. We count ourselves very fortunate to be able to serve our Lord, Jesus and his Church as we "play our best for him"! (pa-rum-pum-pum pum). May the peace found at the manger be yours in abundance! Now, let's make 2017 even more praise-filled!



You are invited!!!! Saint Ann Catholic School Open House Sunday, January 29 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. Visit www.stann.net for more info or call 239-262-4110

Separated/Divorced Ministry 12-Week Healing Program Begins Wednesday, January 11; There Is No Cost to Attend

The Separated/Divorced Ministry is pleased to announce the winter session of our 12-week healing program, beginning January 11. Whether separated or divorced 10 days ago or 10 years ago, this program will offer valuable insight for everyone. The weekly sessions will include 30-minute DVD presentations followed by group discussions.

The video series topics are titled:

- Getting Your Bearings
- Finding Strength and Help
- Getting Through Your Anger
- Finding Perfect Peace
- Learning to Forgive
- Dealing with Your Family
- Handling Money Wisely

- Finding Perfect Power
- Seeing God in Romance
- Relearning How to Date
- Loving All Church Teachings
- Finding Perfect Passion

Our ministry's goal is to become a light in the life of separated/divorced Catholics by promoting a sense of inclusion in our Parish family and guidance through our shared spiritual journey.

Please join us Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Claussen Family Center. The sessions begin January 11 and run through April 5 (with no class on March 15).

There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required. Please pre-register by January 5.

In addition to the 12-week series, we are also going to host informal meetings on Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the same room, starting January 12. There is no need to pre-register to the casual meetings, just join us for friendly fellowship in an encouraging and safe space.

For more information or to register for this healing program, please contact Lhara Echeverria at 239.293.3694 or lhara@sjecc.com or Beth Lucci at 239.877.6254.

For the LOVE of the Poor

For the LOVE
of the Poor

Thank you
for helping us
stock the food
pantries.

The Ladies of Charity
are asking your support for our local food
pantries to specifically assist them during the
VERY LEAN summer months when there
are items needed outside of what our regular
“Simple Gesture” bags provide.

Starting: **December 18, 2016**

Ending: **February 28, 2017**

NO FOOD PLEASE! WE ARE REQUESTING CHECKS ONLY.

- A tree will be in the Narthex with ornaments on it.
- Parishioners are encouraged to take an ornament and generously donate a check to St. John the Evangelist with “Food Drive” written in the memo line. Your checks can be placed in the collection baskets passed during Mass or taken to the church office.
- The Ladies of Charity will designate the money collected to be used during the summer months when food shelves are near empty.



Happy 50th to Patricia and Robert Fritz!



Patricia and Robert Fritz were married on December 30, 1966 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Apalachicola, FL. The couple will renew their wedding vows at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, December 30.

Congratulations Patricia and Robert Fritz!

**New CYO
Arts Programs
Coming
in 2017:**

- Social Dance Classes
- Group Music Lessons
- Painting and Art Appreciation

*Watch for details in
upcoming bulletins.*



Faith and Wine

Thursday, January 19, 2017
6:30-8:30 PM (Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

featuring

Father Bob Kramer & Rabbi Adam Miller

Father Bob Kantor, Pastor of St. Agnes Catholic Church, and **Rabbi Adam Miller**, Rabbi of Temple Shalom, will participate in a dialogue based on a book co-written by Pope Francis and Rabbi Abraham Skorka: "On Heaven and Earth; Pope Francis on Faith, Family, and the Church in the 21 Century." The book brings together a series of conversations between the authors - both tenacious promoters of interreligious dialogues on faith and reason - about God, fundamentalism, atheism, abortion, homosexuality, euthanasia, same-sex marriage, and globalization. Father Bob and Rabbi Miller, as members of the Catholic-Jewish Dialogue of Collier County, will re-create this fascinating dialogue, making it relevant to our lives and providing us with a better understanding of these religions and their responses to the issues we face today.

So, pre-register NOW at www.faithandwine.com.

Invite your friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners to this GREAT event!

"On Heaven and Earth"



Event open to men!

Mediterranean Menu

Appetizer Display:

Pita w/ Tzatziki & Hummus
Feta, Olive, and Tomato Display

Buffet:

Pork Souvlaki Skewer • Grecian Chicken (Chevre cheese, roasted peppers, braised spinach) • Salmon Tapenade • Oregano Potatoes • Greek Salad

Dessert: Baklava

Cost: \$25 prepay • NO WALK-INS!

Please prepay for this event no later than noon on January 17, 2017 by going to www.faithandwine.com (using Paypal) or dropping off your check made payable to "Faith and Wine, Inc." to the St. John parish office. Or you can mail (**postmarked before Thursday, January 12, 2017**) your check to Kathleen Millard at 2134 Morning Sun Lane, Naples, FL 34119

Event held at: St. John the Evangelist PLC Ballroom
625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL

SAVE THE DATES: Mark your calendar now for the remaining Faith and Wine Dates: February 23, 2017; March 23, 2017 and April 20, 2017.

Go to www.FaithandWine.com to learn more!

2017 Women's Conference. All women are invited to attend the 2017 Diocese of Venice Women's Conference Saturday, February 11, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Bishop Verot Catholic High School in Fort Myers. Cost in advance is \$20 (pre-registration on line), students \$5 pre-registration. Cost at the door is \$30, and \$10 for students. This year's speakers are Dr. Ted Sri, Rachael Balducci, Susan Conroy and Lisa Cotter. This event usually sells out. For Conference details and to register beginning on December 15 go to dioceseofvenice.org/womens.

2017 Men's Conference. All men to attend the 2017 Diocese of Venice Men's Conference on Saturday, March 4, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Bishop Verot Catholic High School in Fort Myers. Cost in advance is \$20 (pre-registration on line), students \$5 pre-registration. Cost at the door is \$30, and \$10 for students. The day includes internationally renowned speakers, Jeff Cavins, EWTN regular and creator of the popular Great Adventure Bible Study and the Bible Timeline, as well as Kevin Lowry and Mike Pacer. For Conference details and to register beginning on December 15 go to dioceseofvenice.org/mens.

Annul Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal Is Underway

The 15th Annual Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal is underway and needs your support! The Christmas Appeal takes place now through January 2017. This year's goal is to raise \$550,000. The Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal is our largest annual fundraiser and critical to operating our social service organization. Your gifts provide funding for the many Catholic Charities programs and services available throughout Southwest Florida. Your generosity enables us to serve those seeking help all year long.

To donate please visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org or mail a donation to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc., 5824 Bee Ridge Road PMB 409, Sarasota, FL 34233-5065

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas): Year A

Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 89:4-5,
16-17, 27, 29, Acts 13:16-17,
22-25, Matthew 1:1-25

Mass at Night

Isaiah 9:1-6, Psalm 96:1-2,
2-3, 11-12, 13, Titus 2:11-14,
Luke 2:1-14

Mass at Dawn

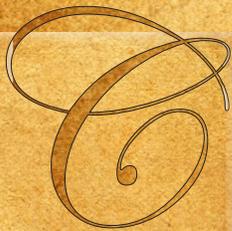
Isaiah 62:11-12, Psalm 97:1,
6, 11-12, Titus 3:4-7, Luke
2:15-20

Mass During the Day

Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98:1,
2-3, 3-4, 5-6, Hebrews 1:1-6,
John 1:1-18

The Word & Life

Christmas – The Birth of Hope



Christmas is a beautiful time of wonderment for children and memories for adults. The passage of time and space becomes transparent in the seamless garment of the swaddling clothes that covered Jesus in the manger at Bethlehem. The scene of the Nativity calls to mind thoughts of Christmases gone by and evokes a sense of security and peace within us. We remember a Savior has been born to us today — Jesus Christ the Lord. The first Christmas witnessed the birth of a shining star, the shepherds' awe and wonder, the choirs of the angels, and the journey of the magi. This Christmas, we remember the great things from years gone by that give our lives meaning and purpose.



The Adoration of the Shepherds (Wikimedia Commons /Gerard van Honthorst)

The birth of Jesus marks the birth of our destiny. As Jesus was laid in a manger, we also know that our hope made its resting place in a world hungering for God's love. When the shepherds were told, "Do not be afraid", so the world was given the same message of courage. The reality of the child Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes led humanity into an ongoing journey into the heart of God. Hidden in the folds of the swaddling clothes, was the mercy and forgiveness of God waiting to unfold in the life of Jesus. While Jesus' manger was made of the poorest wood, it contained the world's finest treasure worth more than gold — a treasure that would promise paradise.

For some, like the shepherds and the wise men, the journey ended at Bethlehem. However, for us, that is where our journey begins.

The ultimate sign of God's love was for his only Son to be born into a world of poverty and need. Mary and Joseph found themselves without shelter on the day of Jesus' birth. Even so, shepherds came to visit their Savior and wise men came to offer their gifts of

gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Extraordinary events surrounded Jesus' humble birth.

Christmas is ultimately good news for us. It is a statement from the Father in heaven. God wants to be close to us. No matter how rich or how poor we are, God's initiative is to make his dwelling among us to change our lives. The gift of the Christ child is God's gift to us — even thousands of years later. The work of redemption and salvation continues today as we journey through the years of our lives. The ordinary lives that we lead may one day be an extraordinary life of someone who has answered God's call to live the truth of the gospel. Each one of us is opened to the reality of God's presence through Christ's birth. Christ came to build a bridge between God and humanity. The experience of the Incarnation initiates a deeper relationship with God. This is the hope that the event of Bethlehem establishes for us.

Voices of Faith

The Christmas Gift

The festival of lights illumine the heavens
Over an ancient land
Where people watch and pray
For the eternal promise
Breaking through the moonlit skies
Appears the comet as a bright shining star
Leading humanity to stable stall
Where Emmanuel is born – God with us

On hillsides shepherds stand and watch
Protecting their sheep from wandering wolves
And suddenly heaven is wedded to earth
As the angelic throngs join together in heavenly chorus
“Glory to God in the highest!
And on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests!”
Music to the ears of simple folk
Souls filled with faith and hope

Trembling with fear
The shepherds are asked to fear not
Surrounded by God's glory
Their prayers for a savior now answered
An infant wrapped in swaddling clothes
Lying in a manger
Is the dream of God fulfilled

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



Prayer

*Word made flesh, be with us as we celebrate your birth.
May Christ always live in our hearts and give us the power
to understand who we are called to be. Your Son, Father,
was your gift to us. May our lives become our gift to you.
Amen.*

Reflection Questions

1. What does Christmas mean to me?
2. How does the coming of Christ gift my life?
3. How does the world change with the coming of Christ?
4. How can I become a gift to God?
5. What can I do to offer such homage to this infant king?
6. Do I allow God's Word to become heaven's treasure in my life?
7. How do I permit Christ to enter into my heart?

With no room at the Inn
Mary and Joseph in a manger rest
Delivering salvation's dawning day
Through the eyes of their child
God peers out at the world in wonder
The poverty of stable stall
Beholds a priceless treasure longed for by both prophets and kings

Amidst poverty comes Emmanuel –
God is with us
There is no longer room for fear
Blessed reassurance as God becomes one of us
To show us how to live and love
To show us how to forgive and hope
To show us how to die and to rise again!

— “Peaceful Moments” by Fr. John J. Ludden

Faith Formation

2016-2017 School Year

December 19 - January 3, 2017
No Faith Formation Classes

Next Classes:

Wednesday, January 4 ~ 5:45-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 8 ~ 9:30-10:45 a.m.

High School Confirmation 2017 Calendar Update

Morning Classes 9:30 - 10:45 p.m. and
Evening Classes 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Class Dates:

January 8	• January 22
February 12	• February 26
March 5	• March 26
April 2	• April 23
May 7	



Confirmation Retreat Opportunity: Friday, February 17,
4:30 p.m. - Saturday, February 18, 4:30 p.m.

TOBYMAC Concert included. Please register with Natalie at
natalie@sjecc.com or Kyle at kyle@sjecc.com.

Confirmation Dates: To Be Announced Soon!

SAVE THE DATES:

First Reconciliation Ceremony: January 19, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.
in the church.

First Holy Communion Ceremony: May 13, 2017 at 11:00
a.m. in the church.

Faith Formation Office Hours

Mondays: 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

(on the days of Faith Formation classes only)

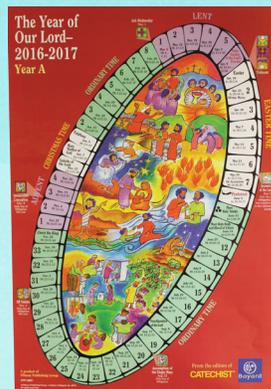
Fridays: 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Sundays: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

(on the days of Faith Formation classes only)

Liturgical Calendars for the New Year: The Year of Our Lord: 2016-2017 Year A

Please stop by the Faith Formation office if you would like a Liturgical Calendar poster to put up in your home. You can follow along with the Gospel readings each Sunday, along with the important Feast Days in the church. The Faith Formation Department purchased several posters and would love to share! The calendars are a product of the Pflaum Publishing Group and are also available at www.pflaum.com.



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

CYO - YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/netteam16 • INSTAGRAM: [@netteam16](https://www.instagram.com/netteam16)

ONGOING EVENTS

ABLAZE (Note this is a name change for Praise and Worship)

Every Sunday, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Join the NET Team and give the Lord praise through song! All are welcome.

THE ROCK (HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP) ~ 9th - 12th Grade

Every Sunday, 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. Meet in the Claussen Family Center Seminar Room for food and fellowship! We will play games, watch skits, open up the Bible, hang out with friends, and more. We cannot wait to see you there to learn more about our Catholic faith.

L.I.F.T.E.D (Replaces OPEN YOUTH ROOM) ~ 6th - 12th Grade

Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Please note the time and day change.) Hang out with the NET Team in the Claussen Family Center Youth Activity Room. We will play board games, have fun with friends, play sports, eat snacks, and more. Feel free to bring any food and games to share (no peanuts, please).

Several Safe Environment Training Sessions Have Been Scheduled at Area Parishes

As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment. For further information, visit the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment.

There are several upcoming Safe Environment Training sessions at nearby parishes starting in January. For more details or to register, call the Parish Office at the location where the class is offered. Please note that no one should attend Safe Environment Training until their fingerprints have cleared. Fingerprints must be updated every five years. If you need to be fingerprinted here at St. John, call the office at 566.8740 for an appointment.

Any employees or volunteers who need to renew their background clearance or be fingerprinted should complete the paperwork and call the office at 566.8740 for an appointment.

Thursday, January 12	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	St. Peter the Apostle, Naples	239.775-9576
Saturday, January 14	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Peter the Apostle, Naples	239.775.9576
Thursday, February 9	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Leo Bonita, Springs	239.992.0901
Saturday, February 11	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Leo Bonita, Springs	239.992.0901
Thursday, February 16	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Finbarr, Naples	239.417.2084
Saturday, February 18	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Finbarr, Naples	239.417.2084
Thursday, March 2	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Ann, Naples	239.262.4256
Saturday, March 4	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Ann, Naples	239.262.4256

Additional trainings will be added in February and March. For the complete list of regional trainings that will be held this winter and spring, please visit <http://dioceseofvenice.org/programs/safe-environment/training-schedule/>

The next trainings will be scheduled in the spring and summer of 2017.

Next Marriage Encounter Weekend Is February 10-11

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it; Retrouvaille can help. It has helped thousands. Our next program begins February 10-12, at 2017 Hampton Inn & Suites, Tampa Northwest/Oldsmar.

For more information, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com, or call 813.906.7705. *Not counseling or group therapy.* All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.

Wedding Banns

Third announcement between

Catherine Glaser
& Ryan Goodman

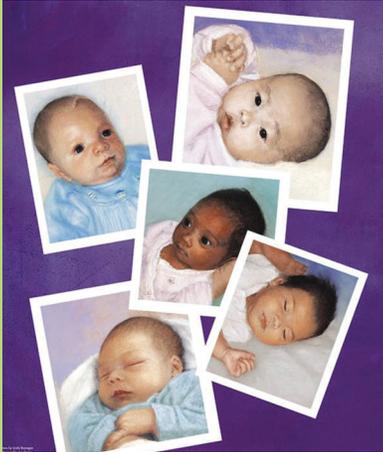


Spiritual Adoption Program Ends With Month Nine

“Here I Am!” HAPPY BIRTHDAY SPIRITUALLY ADOPTED BABY!

MONTH 9- Here I am!”

Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month – nine months after her mother conceived her. The only change at birth is a change in the external life support system of the baby. She is no different now than she before birth except that she breathes and eats differently. She is truly a miracle. She began as a



46-chromosome cell and has grown over the past nine months into this unique human baby we now can see. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist who is exactly like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved her life. Thank you on behalf of all of the little babies and their parents for your loving prayers that helped to bring them to birth “so that they might have life and have it to the full!”

”The next Novena of Masses for Life at St. John will be Sunday, December 25 at 9:00 a.m. This Mass will be celebrated in special observance of the life of Jesus in the womb of our Blessed Mother.







**Celebrating Our
DIAMOND
Anniversary!**

Merry Christmas

Saint Ann Catholic School

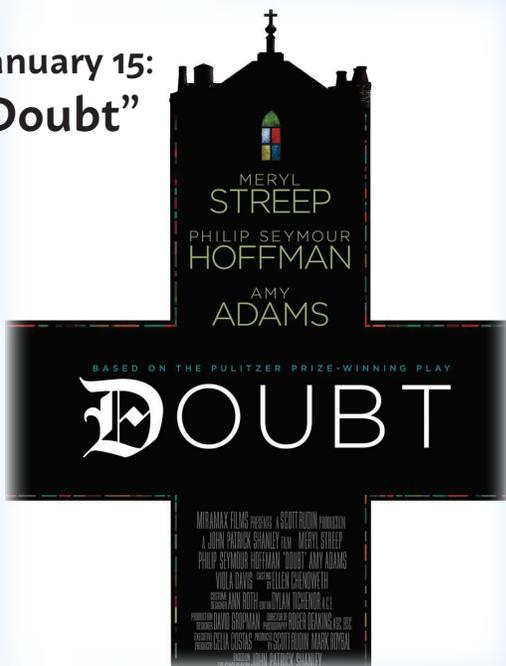
60 Years of Excellence in Education of Spirit, Mind, and Body

Now Enrolling Students in PK3 through Grade 8
Call For a School Tour (239) 262-4110

www.stann.net ~ facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool

Powerful Catholic Movies for Adult Movie Nights at St. John

January 15:
“Doubt”



February 19:
“Spotlight”



Adult Faith Formation & RCIA



Left to right: Michael Viola, Dee Schwartz, Deborah Simon, Christine Reinhard, Jack Kindsvater; Susan Hamilton (missing Nancy Bouchard).

*May the love that came
that holy night
Light all your days
with hope and joy!*

Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!
The St. John the Evangelist Adult Faith Formation Team

We look forward to welcoming you to one of the programs in our Adult Faith Formation schedule which kicks off in January. Three new programs will be offered, Bishop Barron's, *The Pivotal Players*, a quick, 8-week overview of the Bible, *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*, and an in depth 24-session Bible study, *The Bible Timeline*.

If you have attended in the past, you know that these are informative and interesting programs that help you understand Catholic concepts and history.

If you have not experienced Adult Faith Formation, decide this is the year you will begin.

If not now – when?

This Week's Complete Schedule

There are no Adult Faith Formation Programs Scheduled this week so you can prepare for a Happy New Year.

Jack Kindsvater, Adult Faith Formation and RCIA Coordinator. Call 239.566.8740, ext. 3918 or email jack@sjecc.com

BIG BAND DANCE

EVERYONE WELCOME!

First Dance of the Season

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

7:00 to 10:00 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist PLC

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Dance to the Music of the Big Band Era

**Featuring the Live Southwest Florida 16-piece Orchestra
Sounds of Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller & Stan Kenton**

*For Reservations (table of 8 or 10 only) CONTACT: 239-821-9395
Prepayment Required*

**Food available at
reasonable prices**



Big Band
Dance
Schedule

Tuesday,
January 10

Tuesday,
January 24

Tuesday,
February 14

Tuesday,
February 28

Tuesday,
March 14

Tuesday,
March 28

Tuesday,
April 11

Admission:

\$10.00 cash
only at the door
~ includes snacks

Cash Bar: Water
and Soda ~ \$1.00

- Beer ~ \$2.00
per 12 oz. cup;
\$7.00 per 60 oz.
pitcher

- Wine and
Mixed Drinks
~ \$3.00

Dress: Country
Club Casual
(No shorts please.)

Singles Welcome

*Sponsored by
the Men's Club
and Women's
Auxiliary*

SOCK HOP

**FEBRUARY 24,
2017**

Don't be late for a very important date!

MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY & PURSE BINGO

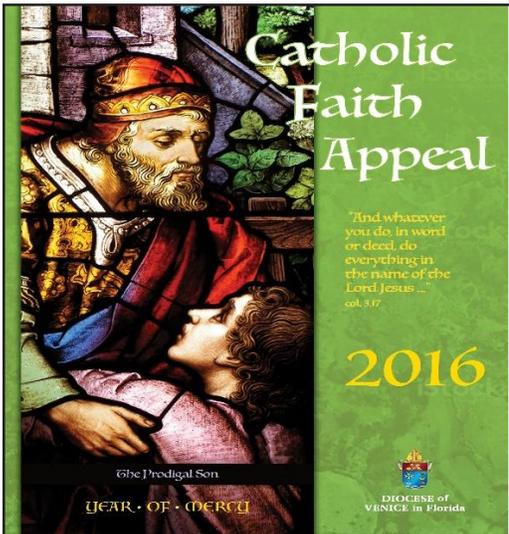
**St. John Neumann Catholic High School
Saturday, February 11, 2017 1 - 4 PM**

\$35 per person
\$250 for table of eight
Contact Kim Hamilton
239.200.7544
kimmie9168@aol.com

**WEAR A HAT!
SOLD OUT LAST YEAR!**



A fun way to invest in Catholic education!



End of Year Giving



As you consider your Christmas and end of year giving, remember your extended Catholic family!

Your gift can be designated to our parish, Catholic School, the Catholic Faith Appeal, the Catholic Community Foundation or an individual ministry. These gifts provide support for Christ's ministry and may assist you with some tax benefits. We are most grateful for your generosity to the Church!

Please consider a possible year end gift. Remember to consult with your financial advisor

Gifts of Cash, Stock or Real Estate

A cash contribution can be made to your parish, Catholic school, Catholic Community Foundation, or to the Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) and may provide you with an income tax benefit. Please call the Development Office to facilitate a transfer of stock or to discuss a gift of real estate. Be sure to let us know if your gift is being restricted for a certain use such as a building fund, scholarship, CFA or unrestricted for the greatest need. For more information please contact: Judy Brown (941) 486-4719.

Contribute to an Endowment Fund

One can give to an endowment fund through the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida to benefit a parish, school, seminarians or other Catholic institution within the Diocese of Venice. A gift or series of gifts made now, can provide a long-term income stream to benefit your selected institution, ministry or program well beyond your lifetime. At certain levels of giving, a named endowment fund can be established.

Charitable Gift Annuities

Your gift to the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida can generate regular fixed payments to you or a loved one. Charitable gift annuities provide guaranteed income during your life and a residual gift to an endowment fund benefitting your parish, Catholic School or the Diocese of Venice.

The chart below indicates the sample annuity rates based on a single life annuity:



For more information, please contact:
Michael Morse, Executive Director
Catholic Community Foundation of SW Florida
(941) 441-1124 / CCF@dioceseofvenice.org

AGE	*RATE
85	7.8%
80	6.8%
75	5.8%
70	5.1%
65	4.7%

Example: A \$25,000 cash contribution from a 75-year-old donor will produce an annual fixed income payment of \$1,450, that is partially tax free and provides an estimated initial income tax deduction of \$10,670.

The minimum amount required to establish a charitable gift annuity is \$25,000

*Annuity rates listed are for illustration purposes only, actual rates may vary.

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 _____ \$ _____

Tickets
(\$50 each) go on
sale at all weekend
Masses beginning
Saturday,
January 7.

Now is the time to mark your calendars for

The Valentine's Day Dance Thursday, February 16, 2017

Billy Dean and Dawn will entertain us again!



*More
details
will
follow.*

Save the Date

Catholic Charities Ball Will Be Saturday, January 28, 2017

The Catholic Charities Ball will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., at the Ritz-Carlton Grand Ballroom in Sarasota.

All proceeds will benefit the programs and services of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. in Sarasota and Manatee counties which include Our Mother's House, St. Martha's Early Learning Center, Bethesda House, Catholic Charities Family Haven, housing counseling and foreclosure prevention, financial assistance, senior services, professional counseling, refugee services, and immigration services.

The evening will include a cocktail hour, auctions, dinner and dancing. Tickets are \$300 a person. For information and tickets visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org or call 941.355.4680, ext. 305 or email mpufta@ccdis1.org.



Merry
Christmas
from the
Divine Gift Boutique!
All Christmas merchandise
in the Divine Gift Boutique
is now HALF PRICE.

*Stop in, browse, and save on items
for next Christmas!*