

December 9, 2012  
Second Sunday of Advent

the  
**EVANGELIST**  
SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Divine Gift Boutique Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Next Sunday

After a complete remodel, which involved painting, adding a window to showcase merchandise, new slat walls, new display cases and new merchandise, the gift boutique is ready for business. The gift shop, newly named the Divine Gift Boutique, will have a ribbon-cutting ceremony next Sunday, December 16 following the 11:15 a.m. Mass. Fr. John will do the honors.

Gift shop manager Jackie Gibson renamed the gift shop with the help of her son. "I wanted it to have its own unique recognition. My son Bill suggested Divine Gift. I love it because our boutique is simply Divine."

Jackie took over the management of the gift boutique this past summer at the request of Scott Schlossberg, general manager, and Fr. John.

"It was the challenge to improve and prosper for the good of the parishioners and our St. John community. I thought I could offer my experience from my previous position as owner of a small business. I was looking for an opportunity of doing something rewarding and fulfilling," Jackie said.

The Divine Gift Boutique is a perfect fit for Jackie. In 1980 she and her husband opened a small gift boutique of 900 square feet in Allen Park, Michigan, and after 30 year and moving to four different larger locations they ended up with a 5,500 square foot Hallmark Gold Crown Store.

"We won a Hallmark award as outstanding single store, and we were recognized many times by Hallmark for outstanding merchandise and sales," she said.

Only about 90 percent of the items in the Divine Gift Boutique

*(Top) Jackie Gibson, gift shop manager, poses with a customer in front of the slat wall in the newly remodel Divine Gift Boutique.*

*(Right) The new window which showcases the merchandise.*

**DIVINE GIFT BOUTIQUE...** continues on page 5



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 & 9:00 a.m., Saturday Mass: 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday Masses: Saturday Vigil: 3 & 5 p.m. – Sunday: 7, 9, 11:15 a.m., 1:15 & 5 p.m.

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

**Mass for Deceased (+) and Special Intentions****Requested by****December 8, 2012 Saturday**

8:00 AM + Lillian Dunnabeck Husband

**Vigil Masses**3:00 PM + Rose Gabrenya Bill Gabrenya  
5:00 PM + Linnae Eddy Parents**December 9, 2012 Sunday**7:00 AM + Patricia Welp Robert Welp  
9:00 AM + Joan P. and Al Moser Children11:15 AM For Our Parishioners  
1:15 PM + Raymond Vasko Kenny V. & Father  
5:00 PM + Eddie DeBene Nancy Tuck*Altar Flowers in Memory of Richard Saunders ~ Requested by Jean & Jim Meleo  
Wine and Host in Memory of Harry & Marie Louise Wright ~ Requested by Karen & Bill Wright***December 10, 2012 Monday**8:00 AM + Gladys Black Fintan & Margaret Stapleton  
9:00 AM + George Orem Carol Wilcox**December 11, 2012 Tuesday**8:00 AM + Dick Adams The Leibigs  
9:00 AM + Elaine Margeson Carole Calandrucci**December 12, 2012 Wednesday**8:00 AM + Vincent Cinque Randy & Melanie Harrison  
9:00 AM + Lillian Howe Don & Judy Howe**December 13, 2012 Thursday**8:00 AM + Mary Margaret Buckley Judy Lynch  
9:00 AM + Esther Gomez Klevanoski Family**December 14, 2012 Friday**8:00 AM + Rita Pabst Mom  
9:00 AM + Santina & Joe Vagnone Chrys Fisher**December 15, 2012 Saturday**

8:00 AM + Peggy Shea The Leibigs

**Vigil Masses**3:00 PM + Frank D'Agostino Virginia D'Agostino  
5:00 PM + Artie, Ralph & Anthony Wife, Mother, Brother**December 16, 2012 Sunday**7:00 AM + Polly Faso Peter DeFrancesca  
9:00 AM + Paul Kiley Mary & Muriel Kiley  
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners  
1:15 PM + Anthony Fabiano Marie Fabiano & Family  
5:00 PM + Louis Albero Nancy Squittieri**FREE Nursery Care for children ages 1 to 5** is available during the following Mass times: Saturday Vigil 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. and 1:15 and 5:00 p.m. The nursery is located in the Parish Life Center, classrooms 5 and 6. A trained childcare provider is in attendance during these nursery hours.**Homebound:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available at any time to bring Holy Communion to the homebound. Contact Maureen Wurtz 593.0475**SPECIAL OBSERVANCES AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK****Saturday, December 8, 2012****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**Vigil Masses**Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;  
Lk 3:1-6**Sunday, December 9, 2012****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 10, 2012***International Human Rights Day*

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

**Tuesday, December 11, 2012****St. Damasus I**Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;  
Mt 18:12-14**Wednesday, December 12, 2012****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**Thursday, December 13, 2012****St. Lucy**

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

**Friday, December 14, 2012****St. John of the Cross**

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

**Saturday, December 15, 2012**Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16,  
18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13**Vigil Masses**Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7;  
Lk 3:10-18**Sunday, December 16, 2012****Third Sunday of Advent**Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7;  
Lk 3:10-18**THIS WEEK'S MASS & LITURGY SCHEDULE...**SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH • WWW.SAINTJOHNTHEEVANGELIST.COM



## Hymns for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 8 & 9

Entrance Hymn:	<b>200</b>	On Jordan's Bank
Preparation Hymn:	<b>541</b>	We Are Many Parts
Communion Hymn:	<b>578</b>	I Received the Living God
	<b>198</b>	Jesus, Come To Us
Closing Hymn:	<b>196</b>	Ready the Way of the Lord!

### Choral Anthems at the 9 & 11:15 AM Masses

<i>Before the Mass</i>	<b>Every Valley</b>	<i>John Ness Beck</i>
<i>At Communion</i>	<b>Philippians 1: I thank God ev'ry time I remember you</b> <i>Oram</i>	

### ***Letter from Finance Council Regarding Importance of Meeting 2012 CFA Goal***

Dear Parishioners,

In August, in Scott's Corner, Scott Schlossberg, our General Manager, provided us with a detailed explanation of the mechanics of the Catholic Faith Appeal. You may not have seen this bulletin. The Saint John the Evangelist Finance Council want you to know that we strongly support the Annual Catholic Faith Appeal. These funds are used to provide services to the less fortunate in our diocese.

At this time, we are soliciting your help, so that we can meet our 2012 assessment/goal of \$443,000.00. Right now, we are short of our goal, we still need \$34,326 by the end of 2012. Why is that important to our parish? If we fall short of our goal, which we did in 2011, we will have to use our general operating funds to pay for the shortfall.

And you should know that our parish budget for fiscal year 2012/2013 was based on the parish meeting our CFA goal. If we fall short, this will be a "budget buster" for the parish and our ministries. Conversely, if we exceed our \$443,000.00 goal by the end of 2012, any excess will be returned to the parish free of diocese assessment. We can then use these excess funds for whatever programs or ministries we choose. For example, we could use these funds to create reserves to replace the aging Parish Life Center air conditioning units and/or purchase materials for Faith Formation, Music Ministry, etc. This would be a huge windfall for our parish. We all benefit from our beautiful campus and our "over the top" ministries here at St. John.

We are confident that with your help, we can achieve our goal. Please consider making a pledge or contribution to the 2012 Catholic Faith Appeal. Remember to make your check payable to the CFA with St John the Evangelist in the memo line.

God Bless You and Yours,

Saint John the Evangelist Finance Council

### Mass Times

#### Christmas and New Year

#### **Monday, December 24, 2012**

*Christmas Eve Mass*

*Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord*

3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. is Children's Mass,  
10:00 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, December 25, 2012**

*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)

#### **Monday, December 31, 2012**

*Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

5:00 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, January 1, 2013**

*Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

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

### **Bishop Dewane Will Be Celebrant for Televised Christmas Day Mass for the Homebound on WFTX-TV**

The televised Christmas Day Mass for the Homebound with Bishop Frank J. Dewane as celebrant will air at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day. For viewers in the southern portions of the Diocese, the Mass airs on WFTX-TV (FOX-4 in Cape Coral). Please check your cable provider for channel listings.

## PARISH CLERGY



**Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor**

Fr. Len Gioeli	Associate
Fr. Thomas Kelly	Associate
Deacon Hal Brenner	
Deacon Rob Chalhoub	
Deacon Frank Panicia	
Deacon Forrest Wallace	
Deacon Al Groh	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 1:15 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**

Scott Schlossberg: 566.1678

**Fax: 239.325.2100**

### **Administrative Assistant & Records**

Melanie Harrison: *Ext. 113*

### **Assistant to the Pastor**

Natalie Campbell: *Ext. 134*

### **Pastoral Musician and Liturgist**

Tom Oram: *Ext. 179*

### **Choir Director**

Ellie Roberts: 682.5609

### **Sacristan**

Lorna Woonsam: *Ext. 133*

### **Communications**

Kathy Sims: *Ext. 128*

### **Memorial Garden**

Scott Schlossberg: *Ext. 114*

### **Religious Boutique**

Jackie Gibson: 325.2107

### **Director of Maintenance**

Marcos Burgoa: *Ext. 117*

## **Education Staff**

### **Director of Faith Formation**

Margie Lynch: 514.2927

### **Director of Youth Ministry**

Bill Maguire: 566.8740, *Ext. 177*

### **Director of RCIA**

Margie Lynch: 514.2927

### **Family Ministry**

Charlene Youngs: 566.8740 *Ext. 123*

### **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: [saintjohntheevangelist.com](http://saintjohntheevangelist.com) Click on the **Welcome** tab on the top left side and scroll down to **Forms**. Return to office.

## St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Naples, FL 34108

*Phone: 239.566.8740*

*Fax: 239.566.9117*

**[www.SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com](http://www.SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com)**

### **Administrative Office Hours are:**

Monday - Friday

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

*(Office closed Noon - 1 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.

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](mailto: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](mailto:kathys@saintjohntheevangelist.com)** or drop your submission off in the parish office.

### **Mass Cards**

Selections of cards are available in the parish office.

### **Mass Intentions**

We are currently accepting intentions for 2013.

### **Altar Flowers and/or Host & Wine**

We have 2014 Mass availability and 2013 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.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The spirit-filled community of St. John the Evangelist is committed to following the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church through stewardship and serving its parishioners, the community and those most in need.*

## PARISH INFORMATION...

SAINT JOHN the EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH • [WWW.SAINTJOHNTHEEVANGELIST.COM](http://WWW.SAINTJOHNTHEEVANGELIST.COM)



# The Stewardship Council Will Host Several Events in 2013

The Stewardship Council has several events on the calendar for 2013. The Stewardship Council will start the year with a Ministry Sunday in January. All the Ministries of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church will parade with their banners at all the Masses on Saturday, January 26 and Sunday, January 27.

On March 10, 2013, the Council will host a Parish Picnic and Ministry Fair. "We plan to have this event for the whole family including games for children. In conjunction with the picnic, our parish Ministries will be present to display and discuss their specific

mission," said Bob Claussen, Stewardship Council president.

Because the Stewardship Council recognizes the importance of donating one's time and talent, the Council, on behalf of the parish, will recognize one of our parishioners as an outstanding Steward who has given back to the Lord their time and talent with abundance.

More detailed information on these events will be emailed to the various Ministry contact person. "If your Ministry does not receive the information, please either call me at 239.571.5502, or email me at naplesrgc@gmail.com," said Bob.



**Christmas Bicycle Drive**  
*for the needy children  
of Immokalee*

**Goal: 200 Bikes**

**Ending: December 15-16**

- A tree will be in the Narthex with ornaments depicting the children's different age groups starting next weekend.
- Parishioners are encouraged to take an ornament and generously donate a bike or write a check to St. John the Evangelist with "Bike Drive" written in the memo line. Your checks can be placed in the collection baskets passed during Mass or taken to the church office.
- Those leaving before December 16th can drop the bikes off at the church at any time.
- For all others we ask that you bring the new (or like new) bikes to the church on December 15th-16th. A truck will be waiting in front of the church with a banner that reads "BIKE DRIVE".



**Please help us reach our goal of 200 bikes.**  
**Sponsor: The Ladies of Charity**

## Divine Gift Boutique — Continued from page 1

are religious. "With the Christmas season upon us, we have holiday hostess gifts, candles, Advent calendars, wreaths, Christmas Nativities and stocking stuffers. We also have holy statues, crosses (for children too), rosaries, sun visor medals, crosses and hearts on chains, in addition to communion rosaries, magnets, books for children, frames for anniversary, bibles, box cards by Daysprings (a division of Hallmark cards), holy cards and so much more. We have so many new items. Everyone should stop in and browse. You will really be impressed," said Jackie.

The gift shop now accepts credit cards – another new feature, as well as cash and checks.

"The gift boutique provides the community with the opportunity to make purchases right on the spot. We offer merchandise that our parishioners might not readily find at any other place. We are contributing to the prosperity of the church. All the money goes right back into the general fund," Jackie said.

The boutique is staffed by volunteers. "They are the heart and soul of the operation. We could not open our doors without these wonderful volunteers. I ask God to bless them every day," Jackie said. "I'm so grateful for the volunteers. I am still looking for a couple more volunteers."

Throughout the remodeling process, which began in July, the Divine Gift Boutique remained open for business. "We have already had a great response to our boutique and many repeat customers," Jackie said. "I'm very grateful to Scott and Fr. John for the faith they have in me and for the free hand to establish this new Divine Gift Boutique, which is a great addition to our St. John community," Jackie said.



## Pancake Breakfast December 9th!!

### Come Support Your Boy Scouts!

Boy Scout Troop 168 will hold a pancake breakfast on December 9th after the morning Masses. With your donations this fundraiser will help us raise money for summer camp and other activities. Please join us in the ballroom for mouthwatering pancakes, sausage, bacon, coffee, tea and juice. If any boys, age 11 or older, are interested in joining Boy Scouts, this is a perfect opportunity to see what it is all about.



### NURSERY CLOSED ON CHRISTMAS DAY

The nursery will NOT be open on Christmas Day, December 25, so that everyone can be with their families.

Thank you  
for your  
understanding.

### Lost and Found

Please check the Lost and Found area in the room next to the Religious Gift Boutique for any items you may have lost. Any items not claimed by Thursday, January 3, 2013, will be donated to the needy in Immokalee.

## Understanding Spirituality & Prayer

will be the theme at the  
*Parish Retreat*

**January 26, 2013**

**Speaker: Fr. J.J. McCarthy**

Open to Men and Women  
of St. John the Evangelist

**Cost: \$30**

includes breakfast, lunch and speaker

*Attendance at Retreat fulfills Sunday  
obligation.*

*Limited to 60 participants.*

**Location:** Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat  
and Spirituality Center, 3989 South Moon Drive,  
Venice, FL

**Registration: See Deacon Al**  
**239.597.5172**

**deaconalg@comcast.net**

*Carpooling available.*

## Coping With the Holidays While Missing a Loved One

*Tuesday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m.  
in the Seminar Room in the Claussen Center*

Call Dee Donnelly for more information.  
594.7193

# Christmas Food Drive

*for our local  
soup kitchens*

Ending: **December 16**

Sponsor: **The Ladies of Charity**

- A tree is 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.

**NO FOOD PLEASE!**

**We are requesting checks only.**

- The organizations that will benefit are The Guadalupe Soup Kitchen, St. Matthews House and the Harry Chapin Food Bank.
- The Ladies of Charity will designate the money collected to be used during the summer months when food shelves are near empty.

**Please help us stock the soup kitchens.**



# St. John Youth Ministry

## Spending Time During Week Preparing for Sunday Mass

The “theological key” to understanding Advent is to understand Christmas properly as well. During the Christmas season, we celebrate not only Christ’s coming 2,000 years ago, but we celebrate his continued coming through Word and Sacrament and his future coming at the end of the world.

This week let’s focus on Christ’s continued coming through Word and Sacrament. We might ask ourselves a few questions to help us enter more deeply into Advent.



**Bill Maguire**  
Director  
of Youth Ministry

There is little chance we’ll experience the power of the Mass if we don’t prepare for it. Do we look forward to hearing God’s Word and receiving Holy Communion with *preparation, expectation and hope* each Sunday? Or has it become a boring routine and chore? Do we actually spend some time during the week preparing for Mass?

- There is little chance we’ll experience the power of the Mass if we don’t prepare for it. Do we look forward to hearing God’s Word and receiving Holy Communion with *preparation, expectation and hope* each Sunday? Or has it become a boring routine and chore? Do we actually spend some time during the week preparing for Mass?

- If the answer is no, Advent is a great season to ask God for the grace to enter more deeply into the Mass. Tell God: *“I’ve tried but I really don’t get this Mass thing. I know I shouldn’t, but I find Mass very boring. Please give me the grace to enter more deeply into the Mass and to experience the power of hearing your Word and receiving you in Holy Communion.”*
- *Prepare to receive God’s Word:* it is helpful to read the Gospel slowly and prayerfully each morning or evening throughout the week. When we pray the Sunday Gospel, God will begin to speak to us through his Word and penetrate our hearts more deeply. Sunday readings can be found at: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/120412.cfm>
- *Prepare to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament:* the same Jesus who was swaddled and laid to rest in a humble manger now comes to us under the humble appearance of bread. Just as those present at Jesus’ birth had no way of knowing from his outward appearance that he was God, we have no way of knowing Jesus is truly present under the humble appearance of bread in the Blessed Sacrament. What was needed then and what is needed now is *faith*. If we want to increase

our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, if we want to experience his power in the Eucharist, it is helpful to pray throughout the week for this grace. This will also help us look forward to receiving him.

- *Expectation and Hope:* do we go to Mass expecting that God will do anything in our lives and change us in a real way? Are we different and better off for having attended Mass or just the same? It is helpful to look to the Church’s teaching about the fruits of Holy Communion:
  - o Increases growth in our Christian life: preserves, increases and renews the life of grace received at Baptism.
  - o Separates us from sin. Forgives venial sins and preserves us from future mortal sins.
  - o Strengthens our bond of love with Jesus and his Body, the Church.

### Advent challenge:

1. Spend 10 minutes each day prayerfully reading Sunday’s Gospel;
2. Visit the Adoration Chapel once this week.

### Upcoming Events:

#### Christmas Caroling

December 16  
both Middle School and High School

#### March for Life

January 23-26, TBA

Bill Maguire, M.T.S

bill@saintjohntheevangelist.

com (office) 239.566.8740, ext 177

(mobile) 239.330.5955



High School Youth meets from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the ballroom

Middle School Youth meets from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Claussen Center Seminar Room



**Altar Servers:**

Neal Borter 804.357.5712

**Arts & Liturgical Environment:**

Kay Sanfelippo 949.7122

**Calling & Caring:**

Deacon Al Groh 566.8740 ext. 125

**Eucharistic Ministry**

Ernest Woonsam 947.8618

**Homebound**

Maureen Wurtz 593.0475

**Greeters & Ushers:**

John Smith 598.2306

**Jamaica Mission:**

Al &amp; Ann Kerns 514.1553

**Lectors:**

Victor Yopez 290.9090

**Daily Mass Lectors:**

Rosemary Slevin 596.7057

**Prayer Group:**

Linda Reilly 821.8982

**Respect Life:**

Rosemary Erickson 597.3941

**Adult Faith Enrichment Ministry.**

Develops programs for adults to grow as Catholics through activities such as retreats, small groups meetings, lectures, seminars, social action and workshops. Stephanie Wardein: 289.5541; Perpetualimagesofnaples@gmail.com

**AGA (Alienated Grandparents**

**Anonymous).** Provides information and support to grandparents who feel alienated or estranged from access to their grandchildren. First Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the library and third Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the PLC ballroom. aga-fl.org

**AA.** Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. PLC.

**Al-Anon.** Monday 9:00 to 10:00 a.m., PLC; Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. PLC.

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

**Arimatheans.** A group of caring parishioners who support parishioners by attending funerals as representation of our faith community. Virginia: 597.7687

**Bible Story Time.** Bible stories, crafts, prayer and fun Mondays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., in PLC pre-school classroom. Parents and children ages 0-5 years old welcome. Jennifer Grenardo: grenardo@comcast.net

**Bible Teaching.** Lectors and friends convene Saturdays, 10 a.m., Claussen Center for relevant Bible teaching and retelling of the Scriptures. Join us in acquiring greater understanding of the weekly readings and growing in faith with us. Victor: 290.9090

**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 5:00 p.m. Grades 6-12 especially welcome. Tom Oram: 566.8740

**Circle of Comfort.** Are you or a loved one affected by cancer? We are a support team who help, encourage, pray, listen, laugh and do whatever it takes to help each other. We don't meet on a regular basis, so please call Jim or Darlene: 495.9741

**Cursillistas.** Third Tuesday monthly at 7:30 PM: The Naples area Ultreya meets at St. William's Ministry Center, Seagate Drive. All Cursillistas are welcome including visitors. Loretta Judy: 596.2291

**Evangelization.** Designed to psychologically bring back individuals who have left the Catholic Church. Deacon Al: 566.8740, ext. 125

**Families Helping Families.** Mondays at 3 p.m. For families with a member who has a problem with alcohol &/or drugs. This is a small caring group to talk & answer questions. Bill: 732.5979

**Knights of Columbus St. John Council 11281.**

Last Monday of every month: St. John K of C Officers. First Monday of every month. Regular meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. Visiting Knights are invited to join our Council meeting. Paul Barrus, Grand Knight: 609.741.4593

**Knights of Columbus Arthur J. Corr Assembly**

**3308.** Meeting are the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Visiting Knights are invited. S/K John A. Fazackerley FN 495.5380

**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. Anne Orem: 566.9636

**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 Jan Sukay: 431.7376. If interested in joining, call Valerie Matulis: 390.3545

**Mah Jong.** Wednesday, 12-3 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 held the 2nd Thursday of the month, 2-3:00. New members welcome. Andy Sanfelippo: 949.7122

**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 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in PLC. Scott Baier: 877.9784 or Chet Lucarelli: 289.2807

**Narcotics Anonymous.** Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. PLC.

**Philothea.** Women ages 20-45 meet to support & encourage one another through the joys & struggles of life, work and motherhood in a Christian environment. Alternate Wednesdays, 7:00 -9:00 p.m. Martha Oram: 566.8740, ext. 177

**Pinochle.** Tuesday, 1-4 p.m. Angie Cornelius: 498.4512

**Religious Gift Shop. NEW HOURS:** Saturday: 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. At this time, the boutique is closed on Friday. Jackie Gibson: 325.2107

**Respect Life.** A group of parishioners committed to protecting the sanctity of life in all of its stage. 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. in the Claussen Center. Rosemary Erickson: 597.3941

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

**St. Vincent de Paul.** Meets first and third Tuesdays after 8:30 a.m., Mass in PLC. Bill Smart: 566.8740

**Sing-A-Long** at Nursing Facilities. Tuesday, Dec. 18 at Kiva of Canterbury, Bonita Springs, and Tuesday, Jan. 22 at Harbor Memory Care, Naples, both at 2:00 p.m. Jayne Potter: 597.5483

**Third Order of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Lay Carmelites.**

Phyllis Gryskiewicz, 566.7307  
**Women's Bible Study.** Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Library and Monday evenings in Room 3 and 4 in the PLC. We are currently studying the book "Come and See The Gospel of St. John" by Emmaus Road Publishing. You are welcome to join at any time. Linda Reilly: 821.8982



## PRAYER GROUPS

### 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 Adoration Chapel. 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.

### Centering Prayer / Lectio Divina

Forty-five minutes of peaceful, silent and beautiful prayer and contemplation. Only your quiet presence is needed. Mondays: 5:30 p.m., Room 15 Claussen Center. Tuesdays: 6:00 p.m., Room 15, Claussen Center. Centering Prayer will meet in the Parish Library on Wednesday mornings following the 9:00 a.m. Mass (9:45 a.m.).

## THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

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

<b>Sp. Petrus Botha</b> U.S. Army	<b>Sgt. Patrick H. Hammer</b> U.S. Marine Corp * LAV Recon
<b>S. Isaiah Brutus</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>Specialist Douglas Hennessy</b> U.S. Army
<b>Ensign Stuart Campbell</b> U.S. Navy	<b>Marine Lt. Colonel Brian Howlett</b> U.S. Marine Corp
<b>Bradley N. Chartier</b> U.S. Army	<b>David Jensen</b>
<b>BM2 Charley Davidson</b> U.S. Navy (USS Samuel B. Roberts)	<b>Lt. John Meyers</b> U.S. Army
<b>Specialist Anthony J. Diamante</b> U.S. Army, serving in Ft Bragg, N.C	<b>LCpl. Randy A. Novak</b> (USMC)
<b>Joshua Emmons</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>PFC. Ryan D. Novak</b> (USMC)
<b>Sgt. Thomas Flood</b> U.S. Army	<b>Lt. Martin Palmer</b> U.S. Army
<b>Lt. Colin Flood</b> U.S. Army, Special Forces	<b>1Lt. Robert Pedrigi</b> U.S. Army
<b>Sgt. Michael Flood</b> U.S. Army	<b>Lt. Joseph Schafer</b> U.S. Army
<b>Lt. Bernardo Garcia</b> U.S. Marines	<b>Lt. Gregory Spencer</b> U.S. Army, (Serving in Afghanistan)
<b>Lt. Joseph Gilig</b> 1st Marine Division * LAV Recon	<b>Houng Tran</b> U.S. Army
<b>Cpl. Dylan Granza</b> (Serving in Afghanistan)	<b>IT2 Jason E. Tydingco</b> (USN) Deployed on U.S.S. Boxer

### 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. in the Claussen Center, room 15. Linda Reilly: 821.8982

### 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.

### Pray The Rosary & The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

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

### St. John Charismatic Prayer Group "Blazing Hearts"

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

## PRAYER LIST

*We remember those who have died recently, especially:*

Shea Maurer, Jack Scholbe and Matilda Schulte

*May they rest in eternal peace.*

*Let us pray for the sick of the parish, especially:*

Joan Abele	Ann Marie Esposito	Richard Maynard	Joe Pohrer
Tom Abele	John A. Fazackerley	Judy Mazza	Angela Preuss
Anita Anderson	Thomas O. Flood	Jean K. McCarthy	David Pupo
Jacob Andrew	Donna Flynn	Sharon McCarthy	John Riney
Ed Barber	Lauran Gaines	Bob McEvoy	Don Robinson
Jerry Barton	Randall Galt	Carolyn McNichols	Maria Scarcella
Makayla Basile	Tim Hagan	Melina Megaris	Cathy Schloendorn
Jennifer Basile	Charlotte Hallohan	Nancy Meleo	Daniel Schoenbauer
A.J. Becker	Leslie Haywood	John Miller	Carol Seiffert
Rick Becker	Gerald Heyen	Dr. Mark Moots	Rosalie Senatore
Gloria Bergeron	Coleen Hill Mary Kay Hoban	Shirley Moran	Tim Shand
Linda Berry	Karen Hohne	Ed Moriarty	Jane & Bob Shengulet
Mary Bessner	Bob Homan	Rich Moriarty	Teresa Shengulet
Bill Briggs	Cheryl & Jeff Horkey	Joe Moylan	Annette Sholette
John Brooks	Val Hunt	Rev. Richard Mueller	Liam Sjoström
Tiffany Baumann Cantelupe	Mario Incatasciato	Sebastian Nagy	Jeff Smith
Kathleen Caputo	Cade Joslin	Irene Nardandrea	Shiobhan Smith
Christine Cassara	Marita Kelly	Frank G. Nicolazzi	Susan Stokes
James Castaldi	Michael & Colleen Kirkmaier	Peter Nicoletta	Bob Stonebrook
Senise Clairmont	Susan Koundalapis	Dennis Noone	Katie Sullivan
John Claussen	Col. Al LaBarbara	Ann O'Brien	Kay Sullivan
Tuck Coon	Al LaRocco	Ed O'Brien	Pat Sutter
Pat Corr	David Land	Jordan Obrochta	Tara and children
Roberta Dabronzo	Wayne Lee	Joseph & Mildred Ondrusek	Rita Taranto
Alice Daley	William Line	Anne Orem	Patricia Trapnell
Brian Davis	Mr. & Mrs. George Losure	Patricia Palumbo	Dolores Varone
James Diamante	Catherine Lusk	Irene Papin	Pat & Eloisa Velasquez
Carol Dickeson	Shari Lussier	Maryla Panagos	Bea Weglarz
Donna DiMaggio	Betty Maher	Michael Paul	Tom Wernes
Alexandria Dolkas	Jeanne Majeske	Diana Pecaro	Barry Wisler
Douglas Donaldson	F. Mansfield	Robert Pellegrino	Tom Wright
Dana Downs		Joan Peters	Jeannie and Sara Zaykowski
Michael Dunlop		Patty Pilkington	

**To submit a two-week prayer request call 566.8740,  
email: [info@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:info@saintjohntheevangelist.com),  
or complete the form below and return it to the parish office.**

*Please add to the PRAYER LIST*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print first and last name

Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LET US PRAY...**

DECEMBER 9, 2012 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT





For those of you who sit in the back wings of church, I am confident that you had no problems reading your missal this past weekend. After numerous delays, we were able to get most of the ancillary fixtures installed prior to weekend Masses. From the comments I have heard thus far, everyone is pleased with the very tasteful sconces and chandeliers. The

volume of new light recognized thus far is amazing versus what existed before. Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain an adequate lift to access the ceiling in order to install the stage lighting, which is the true beauty of this new lighting system. As of this past Wednesday, we still had no lift but are expecting to have one in time to get the remainder of the project completed by this weekend. I certainly am not holding my breath as I could easily be asphyxiated in doing so. The lift that is required to access the ceiling is very specialized and there are only 11 in the state. Because of the tight quarters in entering through the front doors and navigating between the pews, we are limited to this particular lift to reach the ceiling. This is a height of 55 feet at its highest point. Until this week, all of these lifts have been on long term rental or lease. We have experimented with several other options with no luck. Short of apologizing once again, I can only say that we are doing everything in our power to get the job done.

The Ladies of Charity "Bike Drive" is in full swing. As of this past Wednesday, we had a jam packed truck of new and gently used bicycles. So many that we had to make a trip to Immokalee to drop off the first shipment. In addition to the bicycles, you have also donated over \$5,000.00 in monetary contributions to purchase bicycles for our neighbors in Immokalee. We have one full week to go as of this weekend to meet our goal of 200 bikes. After seeing some of the bicycles donated thus far, I would like to make the following suggestion. The recipients of these bicycles will be thrilled with their new mode of transportation. We would also like to have them keep their new bicycle. Many of the bicycles donated are worth well over \$200 (several are upwards of \$500) and will make a nice target for theft once they are on the road. If you are unable to purchase a bike, maybe you could purchase a lock and chain to secure these valuables. I would hate to see someone abscond with a brand new bike intended for someone who really was deserving. This is a reality and the streets of Immokalee are tough. If you share my concerns, please consider donating a lock and chain. Thank you to all who have contributed thus far to this amazing Bike Drive.



The Ladies of Charity are also conducting a food drive concurrent with the Bike Drive. There are two trees in the narthex, one of which has ornaments for bikes and the other for food. Both the food and bicycles will be donated to the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee.

I received a call from Fr. Dennis Farrall, Pastor of Resurrection Roman Catholic Church in Gerritsen Beach, NY. Resurrection parish was the recipient of our Hurricane Sandy collection. Fr. Farrell exclaimed that he was completely blown away (he said it knocked his socks off) upon receiving our check for relief from Hurricane Sandy. He went on to tell me that over 450 homes in their community were severely damaged or destroyed by the hurricane. Prior to receiving our check, he had been distributing funds to parishioners in need with a \$350.00 cap. Those funds were nearly exhausted as of the time of our call. Fr. Farrall will be writing a letter of sincere thanks which we will publish in our bulletin when it arrives. Thanks to our parishioners for making a difference in the lives of those in New York and beyond.

We are in the home stretch of the 2012 Catholic Faith Appeal. In this bulletin (page 3), you will see a letter from the Finance Council regarding the importance of the CFA in addition to a piece issued by the Diocese concerning year end giving (page 20). We are dangerously close to reaching our goal after falling disappointingly short last year. If you are able to assist us in our efforts, it would be greatly appreciated. As of this past

Wednesday, we are only \$34,326.00 short of our goal with basically three weeks to go. Remember that the CFA is the single most important component of our annual operating budget. As a reminder to our seasonal residents and visitors, please make your check payable to the Catholic Faith Appeal with St. John the Evangelist in the memo line. You may also make electronic contributions by visiting the Diocese of Venice website at [www.dioceseofvenice.org](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org). In addition, you may also make contributions of stock by contacting Deborah Shafer in the Diocese of Venice development office at 941.484.9543. Thank you for your continued support of the Catholic Faith Appeal.

Time is running out! For those who may have missed my recent comments, the price for space in the Memorial Garden will increase on January 1. The current price of \$1,200.00 will increase to \$1,500.00. If you would like to secure pricing before the increase, please contact me at 566.1678 before the end of the year.

In His work together,

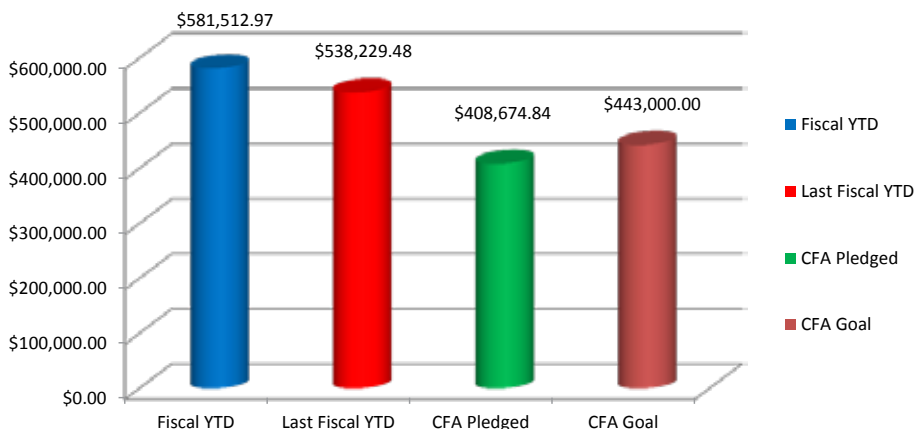
Scott Schlossberg, MBA, General Manager



## Collection Summary



## YTD/CFA Summary



## Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice Christmas Appeal

The 11th Annual Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice Christmas Appeal, which takes place December 2012 and January 2013, needs the support of everyone to provide assistance to the most vulnerable persons in your community. This Appeal goal is to raise \$478,000 for the many Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice programs and services available throughout Southwest Florida.

A gift to the Christmas Appeal results in a better way of life for the families and individuals who come to Catholic Charities seeking help to overcome their crisis. Catholic Charities is grateful for your generosity and compassion, and your partnership in its mission to Provide Help, Create Hope, Serve All.

To donate, please visit [www.catholiccharitiesdov.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesdov.org) or mail a check payable to Catholic Charities to 5824 Bee Ridge Road, PMB 409, Sarasota, FL 34233-5065. For more information, please call 941.497.0930.

## Feast of the Holy Innocents Memorial Mass December 28

When your heart cries for the memory of your child who is no longer with us during this Christmas season, we come to the Christ Child, the Lord of Life, for consolation. A Memorial Mass will be held on Friday, December 28 at 8:00 a.m. on the Feast of the Holy Innocents.

We will be remembering ALL deceased children. We will also remember all of our unborn children, either miscarried or aborted, at this special celebration of your child's life in the arms of Jesus. Pre-registration is not necessary.

For more information, contact Loretta Judy at 596.2291 or 293.5897.

## Advent Penance Services at Local Area Churches

*St. Agnes* – Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples

*St. Ann* – Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.  
475 9th Avenue South, Naples

*St. Peter the Apostle* – Monday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m.  
5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples

*St John the Evangelist* – Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

*St. Finbarr* – Wednesday, December 19 at 5:00 p.m.  
13520 Tamiani Trail East, Naples

## Diocese of Venice in Florida Prayer for the Year of Faith



YEAR OF FAITH 2012 2013

O my God, I firmly believe that You are one God in three divine persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe that Your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths the holy Catholic Church teaches because You have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. In this faith I intend to live and die.

We turn to you in humble supplication for ourselves and our Parish and Diocese in which we work, live, and pray, that this Year of Faith may be a true source of renewal for each of us. May we be strengthened to live our faith in the midst of the world with joy and love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

# 5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid

## Sunday, December 9, 2012: the First Sunday of Advent

Opening Song            **196**   **Ready the Way of the Lord**            Bob Hurd

Kyrie            •            **4**    (*page 5 of the missalette*)

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 126) Music by Tom Oram. © 2004, 2012, A Chasing After Wind Music (BMI). All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Response (cf. v. 3)

The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy!

Gospel Acclamation

Preparation Song            **The Heart of Worship**    Matt Redman

Verse 1) When the music fades, all is stripped away  
and I simply come; longing just to bring  
something that's of worth, that will bless your heart

Pre-chorus) I'll bring you more than a song,  
for a song in itself is not what you have required.  
You search much deeper within, through the way  
things appear—you're looking into my heart...

Chorus) **I'm coming back to the heart of worship,  
And it's all about you, all about you Jesus.  
I'm sorry Lord, for the thing I've made it,  
When it's all about you, all about you, Jesus.**

Verse 2)

King of endless worth, no one could express  
How much you deserve; Though I'm weak and  
poor, all I have is yours, ev'ry single breath.

Verse 3)

And as I receive your Body and your Blood,  
given up for me; Take me as I am, call me to the  
Feast—say the word, I'm healed—

CCLI Song No. 2296522 © 1999 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing). Matt Redman. 3<sup>rd</sup> Verse by Tom Oram. All rights Reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under CCLI License # 2008891.

Sanctus            •            **9**    (*page 14 of the missalette*)

Memorial Acclamation (A)    •            **10**    (*page 16*)

Great Amen            •            (*page 26*)

Agnus Dei            •            **14**    (*page 28*)

Communion Songs            **The Kingdom of Heaven**    Sharon Murray    © 2003 Sharon Murray. All rights reserved.

The king-dom of hea - ven has come to earth.

His Pre-cious Blood and Bo - dy, Soul and Divin - i-ty have made me what I'm worth.

The king-dom of hea - ven dwells with-in our midst:

True Pres-ence of my Je - - - sus, the Ho-ly Eu - cha - rist.



# Breathe

Marie Barnett CCLI Song No. 1874117. © 1995 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Music Services). Marie Barnett, arranged and revised by Tom Oram. All rights Reserved. CCLI License No. 2008891.

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe: your Holy Presence, living in me. This is my daily Bread, this is my daily Bread, your very Body, broken for me. And I, I'm des-p'rate for you, O Lord. And I, I'm lost with-out you, O Lord.

# Closing Song

## Everlasting God

Brenton Brown CCLI Song No. 4556538. © 2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing). Brenton Brown | Ken Riley. For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. CCLI #2008891

Strength will rise as we wait up - on the Lord, we will wait up - on the Lord, we will wait up - on the Lord. Our God, You reign for - ev - er. Our Hope, our strong De - liv - 'rer. You are the ev - er - last - ing God, the ev - er - last - ing God. You do not faint, You won't grow wea - ry. You're the de - fend - er of the weak, You com - fort those in need. You lift us up on wings like ea - gles. ea - gles.

Baruch 5:1-9

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

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

# The Word & Life

## 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.

### 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?



There are so many distractions that can easily pull 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

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"* – Fr. John J. Ludden

# Faith Formation



## Mark Your Calendar

**December 12**

*First Reconciliation Rehearsal*

**December 13**

*First Reconciliation Ceremony*

**December 19 – January 2**

*Christmas Break (no Faith Formation  
Classes)*

**December 21**

*The Christmas Story*

## Faith Formation News

**First Reconciliation Rehearsal...**will take place on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Since First Reconciliation is a ceremony that involves both parents as well as the child, both parents should be present at rehearsal. Children and parents will sit in a reserved section according to their child's assigned faith formation class.

**First Reconciliation Ceremony...**will take place on Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the Church. Through the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, children learn to know Jesus as their Friend, to love Him above all things, to love others, and to have contrition for their sins when they fail to love.

**Christmas Break...**There are no Faith Formation classes from December 19, 2012, through January 2, 2013. Please have a blessed and safe Christmas season.

**The Christmas Story...**will take place on Friday, December 21, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. The whole parish comes together to present the "Reason for the Season."

**Faith Formation** continues on page 17



## Develop an Advent frame of mind

The holiday season can seem more like a test of character than a preparation for celebration. In the midst of the seasonal stress, we are asked to reach into ourselves and bring out only what is kind, generous, and loving. It may help to remember that the real reason for the season is the celebration of unimaginable love.

**Try to see with a Father's eye.** Our Heavenly Father delights in our creation and loves us for exactly who we are. During Advent, try to see yourself through his eyes. Not the flawed human visible to the rest of us, but the spectacular product of God's divine love and reflection of his glory.

**Tune in to a remarkable moment.** *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us"* (John 1:14). It really happened. God really came and shared our experience in the world. In response, we can reach out beyond our friends and family and share our experience of God with the rest of the world.

**Prepare your gift.** The real gift of the Magi was to receive Jesus as the savior of all people. Your gift to Jesus can be an open heart, ready to receive the love he has for you. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).

Anticipating an eternity of unimagineable love is absolutely the right Advent frame of mind.

Growing in Faith, Special Edition 2012, Success Publishing & Media, LLC

## Why do Catholics say novenas?

A novena is a cycle of prayers offered for a particular purpose spanning nine days, usually one day a week for nine weeks. It consists of prescribed prayers and devotions and usually includes reception of the Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion. It can be made in common in church or in private. There are 36 novenas authorized by the Church. The nine days are in commemoration of the nine days the Apostles spent in prayer between the Ascension and Pentecost.



Growing in Faith, December 2012, Success Publishing & Media, LLC

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS THIS WEEK

### GRADE 1

**Life Question:** What are some ways your family prepares for your birthday?

**Gospel Question:** What are some ways you can prepare this Advent for Jesus' birthday?

### GRADES 2-3

**Life Question:** What are your favorite ways to get ready for Christmas?

**Gospel Question:** What is a prophet?

### GRADES 4-5

**Life Question:** Who is an example of a false prophet?

**Gospel Question:** Who is an example of a true prophet?

### GRADES 6-8

**Life Question:** What activities can you do to help prepare for Advent?

**Gospel Question:** What do the prophets of Advent tell us about God?

### GRADES 9-12

**Life Question:** How forgiving a person are you?

**Gospel Question:** How is forgiving a way to turn toward God?

Gospel for All Ages, Good Ground Press and Pflaum Publishing Group

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[faithformation@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:faithformation@saintjohntheevangelist.com)

Website:  
[www.saintjohntheevangelist.com](http://www.saintjohntheevangelist.com)

## 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** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**HONEY,  
THEY'RE  
PLAYING OUR  
SONG...LET'S  
DANCE!**

**BIG BAND DANCES  
STARTING SOON.**

*The Men's Club Big Band  
Dance Schedule:*

**Thursday, January 10**

**Tuesday, January 22**

**Thursday, February 7**

**Tuesday, February 19**

**Tuesday, March 5**

**Tuesday, March 19**

**Tuesday, April 2**

*The Big Sock Hop is scheduled for  
Friday, February 1*

Adult Faith Enrichment presents...

## ***Catholicism for Catholics*** **1<sup>st</sup> Annual St. Nicholas Party**

**Wed., December 19**

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

In the **Library**

Join us for a wine, cheese, finger-food  
& baked goodies POTLUCK celebration of  
Christmas.

Discussion of Various Christmas Traditions &  
How to Keep Christ in Christmas!

The Catholicism for Catholics weekly events include POTLUCK meal

Wed., Dec. 5th Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast:

Mary, the Mother of God

Wed., Dec. 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe – Discussion with Fr. Kelly

Wed., Dec. 19th 1st Annual St. Nicholas Potluck Party

Christmas Break until January 16th



# ADULT FAITH FORMATION

## *Understanding the Gospels*

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church will be conducting a course on **Understanding the Gospels** beginning on Tuesday January 8, 2013, and continues for thirteen consecutive Tuesdays. Classes will be held from 1:00-2:30 PM in the auditorium of the Parish Life Center at St. John. The course will cover the four Gospels with background on when, why and to whom they were written, as well as the central themes of each Gospel. Also presented will be methods to read, understand, and interpret the Bible.

### Course Objective

The objective of the course is to develop a richer understanding of God's message to us and to grow in our faith. All are welcome and there is no charge for the class. To register please call Deacon Hal Brenner at 566.8740, extension 174 and leave a message.

### Course Description

In addition to examining the Gospels, this course will present methods on how to read, interpret, and understand the Bible. It will also provide an historical overview along with an analysis of how the Gospels were written. This will be done through a combination of lectures, CDs and group discussions.

Class 1 - 1/8/13	<b>Introductions, Format, Important Terms and Course Description</b> <b>The Living Gospels</b>	Class 7 - 2/19/13	<b>Gospel Summary</b> <b>Jesus the Teacher</b>
Class 2 - 1/15/13	<b>Theology</b> <b>Mark's Good News</b>	Class 8 - 2/26/13	<b>Key Biblical Dates</b> <b>Luke's Good News</b>
Class 3 - 1/22/13	<b>The Bible — What Is It?</b> <b>Mark: The Onion Approach!</b>	Class 9 - 3/5/13	<b>Tools for Biblical Interpretation</b> <b>Luke's Good News of Mercy</b>
Class 4 - 1/29/13	<b>The Bible — Inspiration, Revelation, and Gospels</b> <b>Solving the Mystery</b>	Class 10 - 3/12/13	<b>The Bible — Process and Understanding</b> <b>Luke's Grand Finale</b>
Class 5 - 2/5/13	<b>How Do You Know?</b> <b>Matthew: The Bridge</b>	Class 11 - 3/19/13	<b>How to Read the Bible</b> <b>The "Un-Synoptic" Gospel</b>
Class 6 - 2/12/13	<b>The Bible — How to Use It and Gospel Sources</b> <b>Matthew's Good News</b>	Class 12 - 3/26/13	<b>Review/Summary/ Images of God</b> <b>John's "Book of Signs"</b>
		Class 13 - 4/2/13	<b>THE Relationship</b> <b>From Death to Life</b>



### Correction to the list of winners at the Vocations Dinner Dance auction November 14:

*The following five couples will have dinner with Fr. John:*

Tammy & Bill Warvel

Ann Marie & Bill Cary

Maryann & Frank Lagonigro

Joanne & Robert McCormack

Kris & Bob Castellano

## Save the Date

### Women's Conference

The 2013 Diocese of Venice Women's Conference will be Saturday, February 16, at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers. Celebrate the "Year of Faith" with other women.

The keynote speaker is Teresa Tomeo, author, syndicated Catholic talk show host and motivational speaker. Also speaking is Sister Mary Gabriel of the Sisters of Life and Dr. Jennifer Morse.

Announcements will be forthcoming regarding registration details.

### Men's Conference

The 2013 Diocese of Venice Men's Conference will be held Saturday, March 2, at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers. Celebrate the "Year of Faith" with other men.

The keynote speaker will be Scott Hahn, author, theologian and Catholic apologist. Also speaking at the conference is Dr. Peter Kleponis and Gus Lloyd.

Announcements will be forthcoming regarding registration, conference details and the presenters.

## CHARITABLE GIVING



## 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, a Catholic school, the Catholic Faith Appeal or the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida. These gifts provide support for Christ's ministry and may provide you with a tax benefit.

We are most grateful for your generosity to the Church!

Please consider these possible year end gifts. Remember to consult with your financial advisor before making a decision.

### Cash Gifts

A cash contribution can be made to the institution of your choice and may provide you with an income tax benefit.

### Gift of Stock and Real Estate

Contact the Diocese of Venice Development Department at (941) 484-9543 for instructions on how to make a direct stock gift or real estate gift to any institution in the Diocese.

### Establish an Endowment Fund

Through the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida one can establish a named endowment to benefit a Catholic institution within the Diocese. A gift or series of gifts made now can provide a long-term income stream to benefit your selected ministry.

### Charitable Gift Annuities

Charitable gift annuities provide future security with a dependable, secure and unchanging income during your life and a residual benefit going to the Catholic

institution of your choice upon your death. Your gift of cash or stock to the Catholic Community Foundation of Southwest Florida funds an annuity and upon establishment you will receive a schedule of fixed interest rate and payment. Currently, rates exceed what is offered by most banks. In addition, you receive a partial tax deduction for your initial gift and a portion of the income you receive comes as non-taxable.

The chart below indicates the approximate annuity payment based on a single life...

AGE	RATE
85	8.4%
80	7.5%
75	5.8%
70	5.8%
65	5.3%



Example: For a person 75 years of age, a \$25,000 cash gift will produce an annual fixed income payment of \$1,189 and an initial tax-deduction of \$10,254, which can be used for up to 5 years.

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

For information on any gift option please contact:

Deborah Shafer, Development Department  
(941) 484-9543





# Faith and Wine

**Patrick O'Sullivan**  
**Holiday Wine and Missions Fair**  
*(a wine tasting with a Catholic twist!)*  
**Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Please join us as we welcome Patrick O'Sullivan on **Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist PLC Ballroom (625 111th Avenue North, Naples). We are pleased to welcome Pat again for our second annual wine tasting event! This year the wine tasting will be paired with short presentations from several featured missions! We hope you will join us as we sample wines for all palates and enjoy a light meal.



We encourage you to pre-pay for this event before December 10<sup>th</sup> by going to [www.faithandwine.com](http://www.faithandwine.com) and clicking on "Registration for Events". Or you can drop off (before December 10) your check made payable to "Faith and Wine, Inc." to Mary Beth Clary, Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur (in The Mercato) 9132 Strada Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Naples, Florida 34108 (note that you can no longer sign up at the SJE Parish office). The cost is \$10 before December 10<sup>th</sup> and \$15 at the door (this includes a light dinner, wine sampling or other beverage, and the speaker).

Faith and Wine is a group of diverse women who seek fellowship with each other and a greater understanding of their Catholic faith in order to enrich their lives and help them cope with the ever-changing challenges presented by today's society. For more information, please visit our website at [www.faithandwine.com](http://www.faithandwine.com).



## upcoming events:

- Jan. 16: Fr. Michael Gaitley MIC
- Feb. 20: Teresa Tomeo
- March 20: Damian Goddard
- April 17: Fr. Dennis Cooney



## ambassador FRANCIS ROONEY

ambassador to the HOLY see  
(2005-2008)

A Naples resident, Ambassador Rooney is a captivating speaker. He is an entrepreneur who is highly engaged in Southwest Florida.

**December 19**

**6 pm - 8 pm**

Parish Life Center Ballroom  
St. John the Evangelist Parish  
625 111th Ave., Naples

Suggested donation at the door: \$15  
Season tickets available

Faith & Ale is monthly gathering of men. We gather for food, drink, camaraderie, and an inspirational speaker. All men are invited: the saints, the sinners and everyone in between. Faith & Ale strives to encourage, exhort, and equip men to be spiritual leaders in their homes, workplaces, and parishes.

[FaithAndAle.com](http://FaithAndAle.com)



NAPLES DISTRICT COUNCIL  
**SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY**

November 13, 2012

Dear fellow parishioners and friends of St. Vincent de Paul,

With Thanksgiving now in our memories, Advent upon us, and Christmas just around the corner, I join all of you in expressing our deep gratitude to God for the many gifts bestowed upon each of us and our families.

At this time of year especially, I ask you to join me in prayer for the people who visit our St. Vincent de Paul center each day in need of food, clothing, and help with rent and utility bills. By the end of the year we will have helped over 17,000 people, and many of those families live within our parish boundaries.

In addition to making monetary donations to our St. John the Evangelist St. Vincent de Paul conference, you can help by making donations to (and shopping in) our two thrift stores. *Please see our ad in the advertising section of the bulletin.* This year, more than ever before, we are in need of clothing, furniture and household items. Remember, however, we also accept cars, boats, motor homes, etc. Think of making a large donation by the end of the year and you will not only help us help others, but you will receive a nice deduction on your taxes!

For more information and/or a pick-up of large items, please call our Davis store at 775-2907 or our Bonita store at 992-1899. Nearly 100% of the proceeds from your donation will support a needy family this Christmas.

I pray you and your family will be blessed in all ways; thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

Bill Smart  
President  
St. Vincent de Paul  
St. John the Evangelist Conference

The McGann-Ozanam Center • 2874 Davis Boulevard • Naples, Florida 34104 Phone (239) 775-1667 • Fax (239) 775-2412  
Naples Thrift Store: 3196 Davis Blvd. • Naples, FL 34104 • (239) 775-2907  
Bonita Thrift Store: 3725 Bonita Beach Rd. • Bonita Springs, FL 34134 • (239) 992-1899  
Meals On Wheels • (239) 775-0443 • [www.stvincentdepaulonline.org](http://www.stvincentdepaulonline.org)