

December 15, 2013  
Third Sunday of Advent

the  
EVANGELIST  
SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Music Department Presents *The Christmas Story* December 20**

*Basilica Recording of La Vergine degli Angeli: Live From Rome Will Also Be Released*

The Department of Liturgy & Music is pleased to once again present to the parish our annual retelling of the Nativity with *The Christmas Story*, held in the church at 7:00 p.m. this Friday, December 20. With selections from the gospels of Matthew, Luke, and John, accompanied by reflections written by Fr. John, dozens of young people from the parish will re-enact the wonder and beauty of the Incarnation of our Lord.

We are providing a *free pasta supper before the concert, at 6:00 p.m. in the ballroom*. Families especially are invited to attend this supper with their children before bringing the children over to the church for the program.

Of course, there will be plenty of music, featuring several soloists and ensembles, including our Children's Choir and Contemporary Ensemble. But it will be an extra special night for our Adult Choir as well. Not only will they be contributing several anthems, but their first album will also be released that evening as well!

*La Vergine degli Angeli: Live From Rome* is a recording of the concert we gave in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels & Martyrs in Rome on Tuesday, February 5 of this year. It was well-attended and well-received, as you'll be able to hear! Works by Verdi, Mozart, Oram, and Ludden are featured among its 15 tracks; surely many parishioners will enjoy having a live recording of Fr. John singing his famous setting of "An Irish Blessing" with the choir. Other soloists include Jennine Fuentes, Dino Valle, and of course, Ellie Roberts.

A stupendous last-minute gift idea, the CD will be on sale after the free Christmas concert for just \$10. It will be available after that in our Divine Gift Boutique Shop and after selected Masses from choir members for \$12. Proceeds will go to fund our next album — a recording of the music of Fr. John — as well as to support our next pilgrimage to Ireland in September 2014. (And if you're interested in coming with us, we'd love to have you! Please see the brochures in the narthex or church office, or talk to Tom for more info.)

Thank you for coming to the Christmas Story this Friday and supporting our ministry!



*Zac MacDougall played the role of Joseph in last year's production, while Monica Costabile played Mary. ZuZu Oram was Baby Jesus.*



*text submitted by Tom Oram,  
Pastoral Musician and Liturgist*



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: 3:00 & 5:00 p.m. — Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:15 a.m., 1:15 & 5:00 p.m.

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

**Mass for Deceased (+) and Special Intentions Requested by**

<b>December 14, 2013 Saturday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Lester Gurdin	Joseph & Sandy DeJesus
<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
3:00 PM +	Jim Belzer	Phyllis Belzer
5:00 PM +	Lillian DeJesus	Joseph & Sandy DeJesus
<b>December 15, 2013 Sunday</b>		
7:00 AM +	Kathleen Houlihan	Mimi LeBeau
9:00 AM +	Enid L. Gauthier	Bob, Nancy & Ted Shannon
11:15 AM	For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM +	Joseph Pisarra	Mary & Ed Haynes
5:00 PM +	Arnold Anderson	Peter DeFrancesca
<i>Altar Flowers in Memory of Nazira Dina ~requested by the Dina Family</i>		
<b>December 16, 2013 Monday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Robert Sullivan	Loretta & Marty Sullivan
9:00 AM +	Matilda Schulte	Pam & Vincent Conlon
<b>December 17, 2013 Tuesday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Al Moser	Robert & Jane Moser
9:00 AM +	Kate Dowling	Bill & Gayla Kaiser
<b>December 18, 2013 Wednesday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Mike & Mary Waskovich	Mike
	+ Steve & Etil Waskovich	
9:00 AM +	Jack Noyes	Anne & Mike Colleary
<b>December 19, 2013 Thursday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Lois Wellman	Gloria O'Donnell
9:00 AM +	Joanne Mellia	Barbara A. Weittels
<b>December 20, 2013 Friday</b>		
8:00 AM	George & Elfreda Novotny	Daughter Susan
9:00 AM +	Peter Caranddo	Annette Scalone-Paine & Glen
<b>December 21, 2013 Saturday</b>		
8:00 AM +	Lois Wellman	Mary Crane
<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
3:00 PM +	Louis Albero	Nancy Squitieri
5:00 PM +	Linnae Family	Dick & Helen Fedeli
<b>December 22, 2013 Sunday</b>		
7:00 AM +	Val & De Families	Peter DeFrancesca
9:00 AM +	Joan & Al Moser	Children
11:15 AM	For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM +	Blanche Bovey	Dick & Lois Tinucane
5:00 PM +	Owen Murphy	Mary Murphy Wheeler
<i>Altar Flowers in Memory of Louis Albero ~ Requested By The Loving Family</i>		

**SPECIAL OBSERVANCES AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Saturday, December 14, 2013**

St. John of the Cross  
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Vigil Mass**

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**Sunday, December 15, 2013**

Third Sunday of Advent  
Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**Monday, December 16, 2013**

*Las Posadas begins*  
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9;  
Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday, December 17, 2013**

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

**Wednesday, December 18, 2013**

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

**Thursday, December 19, 2013**

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;  
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

**Friday, December 20, 2013**

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday, December 21, 2013**

St. Peter Canisius; *Winter begins*  
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;  
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

**Vigil Mass**

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

**Sunday, December 22, 2013**

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

**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.

**Homebound:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are available at any time to bring Holy Communion to the homebound.  
Contact the office: 566.8740

**FREE Nursery Care for children ages 1 to 5** 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 p.m. The nursery is located in the PLC, classrooms 5 and 6. A trained childcare provider is in attendance during these nursery hours.

**MASS INTENTIONS...**

# Hymns for the Third Sunday of Advent, December 14 & 15

Readings:	<b>615</b>	Year A
Entrance Hymn:	<b>337</b>	Sing a New Song
Preparation Hymn:	<b>396</b>	You Are Near
Communion Hymn:	<b>225</b>	Gift of Finest Wheat
	<b>65</b>	Creator of the Stars of Night
Closing Hymn:	<b>343</b>	Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

## Choral Anthems at the 9:00 & 11:15 Masses

Before the Mass	<b>Every Valley</b>	Sherry Porterfield
Communion	<b>In This Very Room</b>	Ron & Carol Harris

## ANTIPHONS for WEEKDAY MASS

**Monday, December 16: Monday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Jer 31: 10; Is 35: 4*

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations;  
declare it to the distant lands:

Behold, our Savior will come; you need no longer fear.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (4) Teach me your ways, O Lord.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Cf. Ps 106 (105): 4-5; Is 38: 3*

Come, O Lord, visit us in peace,  
that we may rejoice before you with a blameless heart.

**Tuesday, December 17: Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Is 49: 13*

Rejoice, O heavens, and exult, O earth,  
for our Lord will come to show mercy to his poor.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (see 7) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Cf. Hg 2: 7*

Behold, the Desired of all the nations will come, and the house of the Lord will be filled with glory.

**Wednesday, December 11: Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Christ our King is coming,  
he is the Lamb foretold by John.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (see 7) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Mt 1: 23*

His name will be called Emmanuel, which means God-with-us.

**Thursday, December 19: Thursday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Heb 10: 37*

He who is to come will come and will not delay,  
and now there will be no fear within our land,  
for he is our Savior.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (see 8) My mouth shall be filled with your praise, and I will sing your glory!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Lk 1: 78-79*

The Dawn from on high will visit us, guiding our feet in the way of peace.

**Friday, December 20: Friday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Is 11: 1; 40: 5; Lk 3: 6*

A branch shall sprout from the root of Jesse,  
and the glory of the Lord will fill the whole earth,  
and all flesh will see the salvation of God.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (see 7c and 10b) Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Lk 1: 31*

The Angel said to Mary:  
Behold, you will conceive and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.

**Saturday, December 21: Saturday of the Third Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Is 7: 14; 8: 10*

The Lord and Ruler will be coming soon,  
and his name will be called Emmanuel,  
because he will be called God-with-us.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. (1a; 3a) Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Lk 1: 45*

Blessed are you who have believed,  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.

## PARISH CLERGY



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

Fr. Len Gioeli	Associate
Fr. Jim Simko	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  
**Assistant to the Pastor**  
Tricia Schwarz

### **Pastoral Musician and Liturgist**

Tom Oram  
**Choir Director**  
Ellie Roberts

### **Sacristan**

Lorna Woonsam

### **Communications**

Kathy Sims

### **Memorial Garden**

Scott Schlossberg

### **Religious Boutique**

Jackie Gibson: 228.3921

### **Director of Maintenance**

Marcos Burgoa: 248.6588

### **Education Staff**

#### **Director of Faith Formation**

Margie Lynch: 228.3904/3909

#### **Director of Youth Ministry**

Call the Office: 566.8740

#### **Director of RCIA**

Margie Lynch: 228.3909

#### **Family Ministry**

Margie Lynch: 228.3904/3909

#### **email staff members at:**

[info@SaintJohnTheEvangelist.com](mailto: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 a.m. 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 2014.

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

We have 2015 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)

# Altar Servers and Youth Group Meet to Discuss Prayer

The Altar Servers would like to thank Tom and Martha Oram, and the High School Youth Group, for hosting a get-together for the youth of our parish this Sunday, November 24. The Servers and Teens discussed how they pray as well as the various types of prayers that they might say in a given day. Afterward, we discussed the role of the Altar Servers during the Mass and watched a video: "What it Means to be an Altar Server" (<http://vimeo.com/74684667>).

At the end of our discussion on prayer, the Altar Servers illustrated a new procedure at St. John. Before every weekend Mass, the Servers, Priests, Deacons, and Lectors gather in the Sacristy to say the below prayer together:

*Oh Jesus, my King and Lord, by the grace of the heavenly Father and the power of the Holy Spirit, guide me in all righteousness as I serve You today at the Altar so I may be*

*always worthy of Your presence. If I happen to make an error, may it be a lesson so my service will be perfect tomorrow. Sweet Jesus, I love you with all my heart. Amen.*



Thank you to all the parishioners for your continued encouragement, patience, and support of the Altar Servers. If you and your children are excited about an opportunity to join in the Altar Server Ministry, or if you have any questions, please contact Jean-Paul Boucher at: [jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com).

## Did You Know?

Altar Servers are considered one of the original Acolytes, which are the minor orders (now called Ministries) that are required for a candidate for priesthood (or diaconate) to exercise before they can receive Holy Orders.

*text and photo submitted by JP Bouchar, Altar Server Ministry*

# Bible Story Time Children Find That *It's So Hard to Wait*

Friends at Bible Story Time on December 2 thought long and hard about the things they had to wait for. Responses were predictable, such as waiting for a cake to bake, then waiting to eat it, waiting for mommy or daddy to get home from work, or waiting for a birthday with all its celebrations. At this time of year there was no shortness of ideas related to Christmas.

As we read the story of the angel telling Mary she was going to have a baby, we talked about all the things Mary would have to do to get ready for her baby...blankets, toys, clothes. Then we

talked about all the things we did to get ready for Christmas...decorating our trees with lights and ornaments, making a wish list, buying presents for our families.

Somehow we all sensed the wonder of waiting, especially since we were thinking of a special baby who Mary was going to name Jesus. How wonderful it is for all parents to give their children special names when they are born! As we made "Count-down chains" and Advent wreaths to help us with our waiting, the children say they can't wait for the next Bible Story Time!



*text and photos submitted by Mary Chalhouh, Bible Story Time Director*

## **Mysteries of Our Faith 10-Class Series Begins January 7, 2014; Registration Required**

St. John the Evangelist will be conducting a series of classes to explore various aspects of our Catholic faith. Each of the ten classes will cover topics on Baptism, Eucharist, Church, Grace, Tradition, Incarnation, Salvation, Trinity, Reconciliation, and Vocation. Deacon Hal will conduct the classes.

The objective of this course is to grow in our faith and develop a deeper relationship with God. We will also explore how God is present and active in the world and in our lives today. Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the ballroom of the Parish Life Center. Classes will start on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 and will begin with a short video followed by questions/answers/group discussion. Come learn and share your faith.

There is no charge and all are welcome. To register or for more information call Deacon Hal at 566.8740 ext. 3926.

See next week's bulletin for more details.

### ***Famous Women in the Catholic Church Conference***

The Rice School is holding the latest in a series of conferences about women in the Catholic Church. On Saturday, January 14, on the topic is St. Elizabeth Seton, the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

The conference will be at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The speakers include Sister Betty Ann McNeil, D.C., and Sister Albert Marie Surmanski, O.P.

The cost is \$40 per person and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For more information or to register, please call the Rice School at 941.766.7334.

## *Life Matters*

### **Feast of the Holy Innocents Memorial Mass Saturday, December 28**

December 28 is the Feast of the Holy Innocents. The feast day officially remembers all the male children slaughtered by Herod's order in an effort to kill the newborn king of the Jews. Those little boys were the first martyrs for Jesus. Likewise, in the modern age, we recognize all the innocents; those babies who were never born, or those who died in childhood.

Here at St. John, we commemorate these children in a special way on their feast day. On Saturday, December 28, the 8:00 a.m. Mass will be said for all those who have suffered a pregnancy loss, or born the grief of the death of a child. Before the Mass, you will be invited to enter your child or children's names in the Book of the Innocents. You can then take a rose to the altar for each child you have listed in the book. The children listed in the book will be remembered in that Mass, as well as all of us who are left to remember their precious lives, however short they might have been.

Pre-registration is not required.

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

*article submitted by Loretta Judy, Respect Life*

*Let Us Use Our Gifts for the Children*

**Please Support The Ladies of Charity**

**Christmas Sneaker and Sock Drive**

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

*Items must be NEW.*

**Goal: 500 Pairs**

**Return by: December 14-15**

**This Weekend**

**“All ornaments have been taken for this drive. Thank you so much!” Please remember to bring the gifts to the church and/or office before December 15.”**

**GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!**

## 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 northern portions of the Diocese, the Mass airs on ION Television Network and SNN; 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. Leaflet missals are available upon request by calling 941.484.9543 and asking about the TV Mass or by writing: TV Mass, Diocese of Venice, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. For more information contact Gail Ardy at 941.486.4714 or email [ardy@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:ardy@dioceseofvenice.org).

## Third Annual Diocese of Venice Apologetics Conference

This year the Venices Apologetics conference will be held in two locations to better accommodate those who wish to attend throughout the Diocese. The South Apologetics Conference will be held Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Naples and the North Apologetics Conference will be held Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at St. Patrick Parish in Sarasota. The theme of each conference is "Catholic Moral Teaching," and topics will include the moral issues surrounding marriage, end-of-life decisions and human sexuality. For further information, please contact [evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:evangelization@dioceseofvenice.org) or call 941.484.9543.

## Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, gets its name from the first word of its Introit, or Entrance Antiphon, for the day: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." (*Phil. 4:4-5*)

Why do we rejoice? Because the third Sunday of Advent always means that we are more than halfway to Christmas (*cf.* the modern "celebration" of Wednesday as "hump day" of the traditional work week). Thus, the liturgical color of the day is rose, the color of joy, although more often observed on the Advent wreath than on your priest's chasuble (*cf.* the less-common expression, "in the pink")! Interestingly, the 4th Sunday of Lent is Laetare Sunday (also "Rejoice!") for the same reason. These are the only two Sundays of the church year when the liturgical color is rose. (You might not have known that, though, since there's no "Lent wreath".)

## Advent Penance Services – Local Area Churches

*St. Peter the Apostle* –  
Monday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m.

5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples

*St John the Evangelist* – Tuesday,  
December 17 at 7:00 p.m.

*St. Finbarr* – Wednesday, December 18  
at 5:00 p.m.

13520 Tamiani Trail East, Naples

*St. Marco Catholic Church* – Thursday,  
December 19

at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

851 San Marco Road, Marco Island

## Pope Francis video: Open your Hearts to Life!

Please take one minute to watch a video at [www.dioceseofvenice.org](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org) highlighting many of Pope Francis' beautiful gestures honoring the elderly, the sick, the poor and the unborn as "masterpieces of God's creation!" At the link provided is both an English and Spanish version of the video.

## 12th Annual Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice Christmas Appeal Runs Through January 2014

The Christmas Appeal, which takes place during December 2013 and January 2014, needs the support of everyone to provide assistance to the most vulnerable persons in your community. This Appeal goal is to raise \$500,000 for the many programs and services of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Venice.

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.

## Mass Times

### Christmas and New Year

#### Tuesday, December 24, 2013

*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.

#### Wednesday, December 25, 2013

*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)

#### Tuesday, December 31, 2013

*Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

5:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday, January 1, 2014

*Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

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

**Altar Servers:**

Jean-Paul Boucher  
jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com

**Arts & Liturgical Environment:**

Kay Sanfelippo 949.7122

**Calling & Caring:**

Deacon Al Groh 566.8740

**Eucharistic Ministry**

Call the Office 566.8740

**Homebound**

Call the Office 566.8740

**Greeters & Ushers:**

John Smith 598.2306

**Jamaica Mission:**

Jeanne Stament 514.0290  
(summer) 413.739.7609

**Lectors:**

Victor Yopez 290.9090

**Youth Lectors** Bill Janes  
bacjanes@comcast.net

**Family Mass Lectors** Tricia  
and Scott Schwarz  
566-8740, ext. 3902; email:  
tricia@saintjohntheevangelist.com

**Pastoral Council:**

Jack Kindsvater jkinds@me.com

**Prayer Group:**

Linda Reilly 821.8982

**Respect Life:**

Rosemary Erickson 597.3941

**Stewardship Council:**

Bob Claussen naplesrgc@gmail.com

**Adult Faith Enrichment Ministry.**

Offers adult education programming for continued growth in our faith through such activities as retreats, Bible & Catechism studies, lectures, seminars, social action opportunities and workshops. Margie Lynch: 228.3909; margie@saintjohntheevangelist.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 p.m. in the library and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the PLC ballroom. aga-fl.org

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

**Al-Anon.** Monday 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday - beginners, 11:30 a.m.; and noon - discussion; all in PLC. Carol: 804.306.5323

**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 - 11 a.m., in PLC preschool classroom. Parents and children ages 0-5 years old welcome. Mary Chalhoub: 414.791.9363

**Bible Teaching.** Lectors and friends convene Saturdays, 10 a.m. in the 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 p.m. Grades 6-12 especially welcome. Tom Oram: 566.8740

**Circle of Comfort.** If you have cancer, or are taking care of someone who does, you may be facing challenges that may leave you feeling overwhelmed, frightened, alone and in need of comfort. Let us share our experience of faith, strength and prayer with you. We help each other live one day at a time through encouragement, prayer, laughter or whatever it takes to bring comfort to each other. Jim or Darlene 495.9741

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

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

**Faith Chat.** Wednesdays at 5:45 - 7:30 p.m. in Library. Maggie Miller: 239.687.0687

**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

**Grief Support.** Sessions will be on the following Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in room 1 of the Claussen Center: October 8, October 15, October 22, October 29, November 12, November 19 and November 26. Dee: 594.7193

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

Meets first Monday of the month. Officers at 6 p.m.; business meeting at 7 p.m. Social meeting last Monday of the month. Visiting Knights are welcome. Paul Barrus, Grand Knight: 609.741.4593

**Knights of Columbus Arthur J. Corr Assembly 3308.** Meeting are third Tuesday of every month at Noon in the Seminar Room of the Claussen Center. Visiting Knights are invited. S/K Bill Wright FN 593.5965

**Knitting & Crocheting.** Tuesdays from 10 - 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. Mary Chalhoub: 414.791.9363

**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 Dianne Pesce at 630.571.0707. If interested in joining, call MarieElaina Mullin: 273.1702.

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

**Men's Club.** Group of dedicated men (with the superb assistance from their ladies) who assist the Pastor and the parish. Meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 2-3 p.m.. New members welcome. Joe Lichwalla: 348.1828

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

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

**Philothea.** Women ages 20-45 meet to support and encourage one another through the joys and struggles of life, work and motherhood in Christian environment. Alternate Wednesdays, 7 - 9 p.m. Martha Oram: 407.615.9017 or mjr.oram@gmail.com

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

**Respect Life.** A group of parishioners committed to protecting the sanctity of life in all of its stages. They coordinate all respect life activities within the parish as well as outreach to the community. Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. 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 in the PLC after 8:00 a.m. Mass. Bill Smart: 566.8740

**Sing-A-Long.** Tuesday, Nov. 19 at Juniper Village at Naples and Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Kiva of Canterbury - at 2 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. Maggie Miller: 239.687.0687 or maggnana@comcast.net or Linda Reilly, 821.8982



## PRAYER GROUPS

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

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

### **Cenacle of Life Prayer Group**

Blessed John Paul II said "a great prayer for Life is urgently needed!" Cenacle participants pray for an end to the Culture of Death every Tuesday evening, 6:00 to 6:45 p.m., in the 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.

### THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

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

<b>Lcpl. Francisco Alvarenga</b> U.S. Marines	<b>Specialist Douglas Hennessy</b> U.S. Army
<b>Sp. Petrus Botha</b> U.S. Army	<b>Marine Lt. Colonel Brian Howlett</b> U.S. Marine Corp
<b>S. Isaiah Brutus</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>AT3 Corinne MacFarlane</b> U.S. Navy
<b>Ensign Stuart Campbell</b> U.S. Navy	<b>Lt. John Meyers</b> U.S. Army
<b>Bradley N. Chartier</b> U.S. Army	<b>Lcpl. Randy A. Novak (USMC)</b>
<b>BM2 Charley Davidson</b> U.S. Navy (USS Samuel B. Roberts)	<b>Lcpl. Ryan D. Novak (USMC)</b>
<b>Adam Decker</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>Ryan D. Novak (USMC)</b>
<b>Nicholas Detloff</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>Cpt. Daniel Palmer</b> U.S. Army
<b>Sgt. Anthony J. Diamante</b> U.S. Army, (Afghanistan)	<b>Cpt. John Palmer</b> U.S. Army
<b>Joshua Emmons</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>Cpt. 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>Lt. Bernardo Garcia</b> U.S. Marines	<b>Lt. Joseph Schafer</b> U.S. Army
<b>Lt. Joseph Gilig</b> 1st Marine Division * LAV Recon	<b>Lt. Gregory Spencer</b> U.S. Army, (Afghanistan)
<b>Cpl. Dylan Granza</b> U.S. Army Ranger	<b>Lt. Kelly Spencer</b> U.S. Air Force
<b>Specialist Shelby Granza</b> U.S. Army	<b>Houng Tran</b> U.S. Army
<b>Sgt. Patrick H. Hammer</b> U.S. Marine Corp * LAV Recon	<b>IT2 Jason E. Tydingco</b> (USN)
	<b>Co. Glenn Yeck</b> U.S. Navy (Afghanistan)

### **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

### **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. Following the morning Mass, every

Wednesday, Wednesday Centering Prayer will meet in the Parish Library.

### **Liturgy of the Hours**

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

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

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

## PRAYER LIST

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

Carmela Abbate	Alexandria Dolkas	David Kelly	Kathleen Salvi
Thomas Abell	John Dovi	Mary Kelly	Edna Sanvidge
Deacon Al	Michael Dunlop	Colleen Kirkmaier	Reagan Scacchetti
Maureen Alonso	Trudy Eddy	Anna LaGrasta	Dominick Scaiano
Marie Amont	Nancy Ellert	Lamport Family	Cynthia Scariati
Jim Amont	Ellen Enright	Diane Leahy	Michael Scheidemann
Jacob Andrew	Ann Marie Esposito	Mary Jane Leake	Cathy Schloendorn
Agatha Barczynski	Edith Esposito	Pattie Leiner	Joanne Scimone
Jennifer Basile	Claire Febrezio	Lindsay Levery	Douglas Scott
Bev Basler	Troy Feidler	Josh & Carl Locke	Walter Scott
Margie Benefico	Tiffany Fiedler	Kevin Locke	Carol Seiffert
Linda Berry	Thomas O. Flood	Mr. & Mrs. Louser	Jane & Bob Shengulet
Mary Bessner	Donna Flynn	Carolyn McDonald	Teresa Shengulet
Lucretia Biasi	Stephen Gibson	Dr. Martin McKenna & Family	Jean Smith
Anthony Bonavita	Joan Gleason	McKee Family	Jeff Smith
Marge Bond	Veronica Glennon	Harriet Meza	Inga Sovia
Genevieve Brown	Dick Goepel	Jim Moran	Margaret Stovich
Pat Brothy	Stephen Golia	Ed Moriarity	Pat Sutter
Frank Caccavo Jr.	Madelon Gorsky	Mildred Morrison	Joanmarie Switalski
Joseph Carchia	Rich Greenwood	Peter Nicoletta	Tara & Family
Robert Carnevale	Carmela Grosso	Ed O'Brien	Rita Taranto
Anna Cassara	Diana Gust	Honey O'Connell	Patricia Trapnell
Christine Cassara	Harry Hammond	Jim Orlando	Pat & Eloisa Velasquez
James Castaldi	Barbara Hanson	Tyler Ostos	Larry Watson
Diane Centenaro	William "Bill" Hardy	Maryla Panagos	Lucy Westman
Drew and Kanema Clark	Frank Harris	James Patton	John Yotis
Richard Clark	Luci Hartert	Irene Pires	Mary Yotis
Claussen Family	Jerry Heyen	Joe Pohrer	
Arthur Cuellar	Colleen Hill	Kimberly Porter	
Susan Cusick	Karen Hohne	Katherine Prince	
Edna D' Antuono	Charlotte Hollohan	William Pulte	
Alice Daley	Peggy Hooper	Radel Family	
Brian Davis	Donald Howe	Joe Reid	
James Diamante	Val Hunt	Esther Riley	
Julie Dieter	Pam Jenkins	Mary Rossi	
Patty Dillow	Ned Johnston	Betsy Russo	
Connie Dimucci	Nadiya Joseph	Anneliese Salamon	
	Chester T. Kauffman		

**LET US PRAY...**

To submit a two-week prayer request call 566.8740, or email: [info@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:info@saintjohntheevangelist.com)

DECEMBER 15, 2013 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The recent weather pattern feels more like early October rather than early December. I am aware that the majority of our seasonal residents and visitors are ecstatic with the warmer than usual weather, however, I would like some cooler weather indicative of late fall. The winter solstice is exactly one week away (December 21) marking the first day of winter. As the song says, "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" however, it is not at all beginning to feel a lot like Christmas with high temperatures in the 80s. If the forecast holds, it will have cooled a few degrees by this weekend but far short of where we should be for this time of year. Ironically, it seems as though the state of Florida is the only one in the contiguous 48 that has been exempt from colder than normal weather recently. As a year round resident, I feel that my dues are paid sweating it out during the summer months. The ultimate reward is cool weather during the late fall and winter. My apologies if I offended anyone with my wishes for cooler or seasonable weather for the holidays.

I have had the hardest time beginning this paragraph basically due to the fact that we are in totally uncharted waters and the following has **NEVER** happened in my 16+ year tenure at St. John the Evangelist. With that said, let me begin by saying **THANK YOU** to our amazing parishioners for their extreme generosity! As of Monday, December 9, we have officially reached our goal for the 2013 Catholic Faith Appeal. As a matter of fact, we have already exceeded our goal by over \$8,000.00. This accomplishment has never taken place this early in the year! Actually, for many years, we never reached our goal at all! We still have the remainder of the month to really knock it out of the park. The task now is easy. Every dollar you contribute to the CFA before the end of the year will come directly back to the parish free of assessment. This is an amazing opportunity to really make a difference financially in the operations of the parish. **THANK YOU** again for allowing us to reach our goal and thank you in advance for allowing us to continue to exceed our goal for the next two weeks.

As a follow up to the preceding paragraph, please 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. Due to the very late date in the year, the latter two options will certainly be your best bet in ensuring that we are credited in the current calendar year.

Beginning this weekend you will see special green bordered envelopes in the narthex. These envelopes are to be used for our annual Christmas Spiritual Bouquet. 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. A duplicate of the envelope is published on page 18 in the bulletin for those who are unable to locate an envelope.

This may be a bit premature, but I thought I would put out a Save the Date reminder for our Family Fun and Ministry Day to be held on March 9 in the PLC ballroom and outside in the fields on the far north end of our campus. For those who attended last year, this was an incredibly well attended and very fun event where all members of our parish family (regardless of age) enjoyed great food provided by our Men's Club, activities from Bounce Houses to a rock climbing wall and the opportunity to visit with representatives from our countless ministries. There will once again be **NO CHARGE** to attend this event. You will simply be asked to RSVP the number attending from your family. I hope to see you all on March 9.

In His work together,

Scott Schlossberg, MBA  
General Manager

In order that we may enhance communication within the parish through our new email module, we must have your email address. We will use the email address to send out newsletters and pertinent emails relating to upcoming events which you may want to be involved. Thank you for your co-operation.

Drop in the collection basket or turn in at the parish office.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Bonita Village Band**  
**Annual FREE Concert**  
**Friday, January 10**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**in Parish Life Center**  
**More details will follow.**  
**Contact:**  
**Pat Lampe 592.7845**

### Is your high school student in need of Confirmation?

The Sacrament of Confirmation is administered in the Diocese of Venice in 10th Grade. In order to be eligible, students must attend two consecutive years (ninth and tenth grade, usually) of religious education here at St. John, or have proof of their attendance elsewhere. For more information and to get your child enrolled in our program, please call Martha Oram, director of Youth Ministry, at 566.9117, ext. 3915.

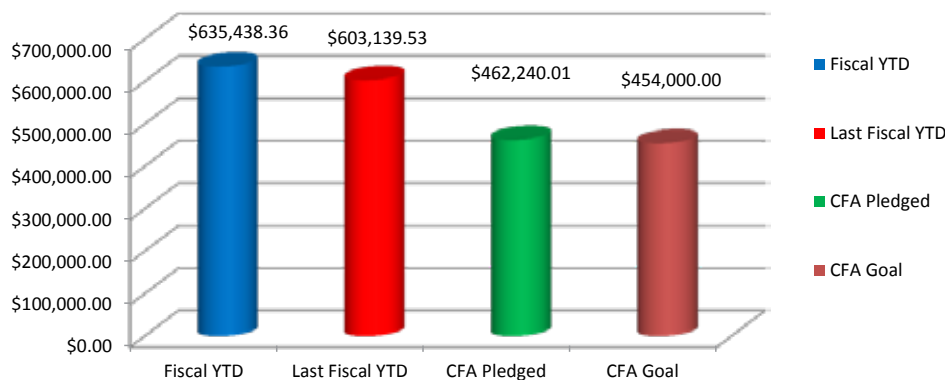
### Second Collection This Weekend to Benefit St. Pius X

This weekend a second collection at St John's will be held for the benefit of St Pius X parish and its people. Their needs are always ongoing; their gratitude and ours know no bounds.

### Collection Summary



### Fiscal YTD (7/1/2013-6/30/2014) & CFA Summary



### 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 Electrical Room to the right of the ladies restroom for any items you may have lost. More expensive items are locked up. See Lorna Woonsam, head sacristan, before or after Mass, or call her and leave a message at 566-8740, ext. 3912.

Any items not claimed by Friday, January 31, 2014, will be donated to the farm workers.



# 5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid

## Sunday, December 15, 2013:

### the Third Sunday of Advent

Readings **615**  
 Opening Song **337 Sing a New Song** Dan Schutte  
 Kyrie • **5A** *hymnal*



Responsorial Psalm (Ps 146) Music by Tom Oram, © 2010 A Chasing After Wind Music (BMI.) All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Response (cf. Is. 35:4)

*Cantor* Lord, come and save us! *Congregation* (Lord, come and save us!) *Cantor* Come and save us, Lord! *Congregation* (Come and save us, Lord!)

*etc.*  
 Save us, Lord! (Save us, Lord!) Save us, Lord! (Save us, Lord!) Lord, come and save us! (Lord, come and save us!)

Gospel Acclamation • **11A** *hymnal*

Preparation Song **Love Has Come** Matt Maher CCLI Song # 4511102. Matt Maher. © 2000  
 spiritandsong.com. All rights reserved. Reprinted under LicenSing Online #U19759 and CCLI License # 2008891.

Verses

1. With one voice the an - gels sing songs that make cre - a - tion ring.  
 2. God the Fa - ther, El - o - him, voice of thun - der, spir - it, wind:  
 3. God of Cov - e - nant, di - vine, lead us to the end of time,  
 4. Now sal - va - tion has \_\_\_\_\_ come in the New Je - ru - sa - lem.

1. Proph - ets hear and call us to live in spir - it and in truth. (to Verse 2)  
 2. breathe on me your ver - y life; grace will make the dark - ness bright.  
 3. be - yond sor - row, be - yond fear, be - yond pride and earth - en tears.  
 4. Danc - ers dance and sing - ers roar; pro - claim - ing Je - sus Christ is Lord!

Refrain  
 Word of God, en - throned, dwell in us for - ev - er -  
 more. Love has come to show the way.

Hal - le - lu - jah, peace be with  
us. Love has come to show the way.

Sanctus • 19A Memorial Acclamation (A) • 20A  
Great Amen • 21A Agnus Dei • 24A

Communion Songs 227 **This Is Jesus** Jim Cowan

**We Fall Down** Chris Tomlin

CCLI Song No. 2437367. © 1998 worshiptogether.com songs. All rights Reserved. CCLI License No. 2008891.

We fall down, we lay our crowns at the feet of Je - sus. The great - ness of  
mer - cy and love at the feet of Je - sus. And we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry  
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, and we cry ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lamb.

Closing Song **Just Like You** Matt Maher CCLI Song No. 4510938. © 2000 spiritandsong.com. Matt Maher. For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights Reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License No. 2008891

Verse 1) Revive my heart, renew my soul  
In you, O Lord, I am made whole!  
No more in fear will I wander,  
'Cause you're my God, my Lord, and Lover.

Verse 2) Oh lift me up, God my Father,  
In all this world, there is no other!  
I'm dancing in your holy presence,  
and your glory fills all my senses!

Like a burn - ing fire be my one de - sire. I want to be ho -  
ly just like You. I want to go where You lead me to.  
With reck - less a - ban - don to Your truth, I want to fall deep -  
er in love with You.

*prepare ye the way of the LORD*

# The Word & Life

Isaiah 35:1-6A, 10

Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

## *A Dream Come True*

**J**ohn the Baptist is the great model of preparation as we move forward through this holy season of Advent. He spent his life preaching repentance and urged people to prepare themselves to meet the promised one. In today's gospel, we hear of John's longing to know whether or not Jesus was the dream of God. John is in prison because of his witness to the truth. Even though he gives witness to Christ at the Jordan River, he begins to doubt in his isolation — he needs reassurance. Jesus' response is very clear: "Tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and poor have the good news proclaimed to them." This is the prophecy of Isaiah fulfilled; the dream of the people of Israel comes true. John the Baptist was the messenger, and Jesus was certainly the message. Jesus continues to reassure us that he is the answer to our prayers; it is through him that God's dream for each of us is realized. The coming of the Messiah brought with it the advent of healing and restoration. This is what we are asked to focus on as we approach the sacred time of the Incarnation. In the Christmas event, humanity is redeemed, restored, and made whole by the events surrounding Jesus' life, death, and

resurrection. As we approach the story where extraordinary events surrounded the unlikely location of a Savior's birth, we are reminded that all this took place for each one of us.

The needs of our time are not unlike the needs that Isaiah and Jesus discerned. The world still requires healing. People remain feeble, weak, frightened, poor, and needy. In a sense we long for Jesus in the midst of our challenges just as much as John the Baptist longed to know if Jesus was the one who is to come. We are asked to wait patiently for the Lord as we discern his presence in our lives. Faced with many challenges, we must remember that Jesus walks with us throughout those experiences offering us hope. How do we know this for sure? The answer lies with faith. Without faith we have no hope. With faith, we



have the assurance of everlasting life and are given the promise that we will never be left alone. Jesus is with us until the end of time!

There is a danger in viewing the past events of the gospel as if they are a reality beyond our reach. In the event of the Incarnation, we are reminded that redemption and salvation are readily available to each one of us. Every time Jesus heals someone in the gospel, *he is teaching us how we may be healed or how we can heal one another through faith.* Jesus shows us the way to the Father every time that he reaches out to the feeble and the weak. Each of Jesus' parables and teachings give us the blueprint of how to live our lives — opening us to the heart of our God. This is what salvation in Christ means — to know God and to live in His ways. In living the gospel, we keep the dream of God alive!

## Prayer

*Come, Lord Jesus. Enter into our lives with your healing. Make strong our feeble hearts and make us firm. Alleviate the fear that undermines our courage and strengthen our hope in your lasting goodness. Amen.*

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



## Reflection Questions

1. Why does John the Baptist seek clarification in regard to Jesus' mission?
2. How does Jesus define his own life project?
3. Do you allow Jesus to work the same kind of miracles in your life?
4. Examine the ways Jesus restored Israel.
5. How does Jesus offer sight, hearing, new life, etc., to us?
6. Do you prepare ways in which the Lord can enter into the reality of your life and the life of others? Why or why not?
7. When do you seek clarification about the Lord's presence in your life?

## Wisdom of the Fathers



*Image: Pope Francis delivers his talk during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican December 4. Catholic News Service photo/Paul Haring)*

The Season of Advent is... *"a new journey of the People of God with Jesus Christ, our Shepherd, who guides us through history toward the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God. Therefore, this Season has a special charm, it makes us experience deeply the meaning of history. We rediscover the beauty of all being on a journey: the Church, with her vocation and mission, and all humanity, peoples, civilizations, cultures, all on a journey across the paths of time.*

This journey never comes to an end. Just as in each of our lives we always need to begin again, to get up again, to rediscover the meaning of the goal of our lives, so also for the great human family it is always necessary to rediscover the common horizon toward which we are journeying. *The horizon of hope!* This is the horizon that makes for a good journey. The season of Advent . . . . . restores this horizon of hope, a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God's Word. A hope which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful! He does not disappoint! Let us think about and feel this beauty."

— Pope Francis, *The Angelus Address, Sunday, 1st December, 2013*

# Faith Formation



John the Baptist in Prison

## Mark Your Calendar

**December 20**

*The Christmas Story*

**December 22 – January 5**

*Christmas Break*

*(No Faith Formation Classes)*

**January 8**

*Wednesday Classes Resume*

**January 12**

*Sunday Classes Resume*

**January 15**

*First Communion Parent Meeting*

## Faith Formation News

**The Christmas Story...**will take place on Friday, December 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. The whole parish comes together to present the "Reason for the Season."

**Christmas Break...**There are no Faith Formation classes from December 22, 2013 through January 5, 2014. Please have a blessed and safe Christmas season.

**Wednesday Classes Resume...**on January 8, 2014 after the Christmas break.

**Sunday Classes Resume...**on January 12, 2014 after the Christmas break.

**First Communion Parent Meeting...**will be on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the seminar room in the Claussen Center. All parents who have children making their First Eucharist in May 2014 need to attend this meeting.

**Faith Formation** continues on page 17



## REFLECTION

In Sunday's Gospel John the Baptist raises a question we often ask: Who is Jesus? Is he the long-awaited Messiah? Jesus sends John a message – the deaf hear, the blind see, lame people leap, lepers are healed, the dead are raised, and Jesus preaches to the poor.

Jesus' message tells us not only who he is but also who we, his followers, are. Jesus and his followers are people who heal, who give life to others, who reach out especially to the poor.

Working for justice for poor people is one of the most important ways we can follow the Gospel. To follow Jesus is not to get ahead with God for one's self. To follow Jesus is to gather people together and to take special care of those who have a hard time helping themselves and to people who need strength not to be scared.

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

## What is under your tree this Christmas?

Christmas celebrates the most amazing truth: God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, loves each of us individually and particularly. Of all God's creatures, we alone were made for God himself. His love is free – the best gift for Christmas.

**Accept the gift.** To do that, open your heart to receive all the love he wants to give you. Empty yourself of resentment, bitterness, anger, envy – anything that doesn't belong – to make room. Start with the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent. Repeat often throughout the year.

**Unwrap the gift.** The Bible is the great story of God's love and a personal love letter written by God to each of us. Reading Scripture is key to revealing all the ways God loves us.

**Share the gift.** There may be people in your life who don't yet know God. Your example and influence could be the only way they will know what God's love can be like. Blessed Pope John Paul II said, "Those who have come into genuine contact with Christ cannot keep him for themselves, they must proclaim him."

**Give a gift yourself.** Take time to love God more each day. St. Augustine said, "To fall in love with God is the greatest romance, to seek him the greatest adventure, to find him, the greatest human achievement." Merry Christmas.

Bringing Home the Word, December 15, 2013, Franciscan Media

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
Open my eyes that I may see you in the dark of winter  
and feel your warmth despite the cold of the world.  
Brighten my days with the light of your love  
that I may reflect that light for others.  
Amen.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS THIS WEEK

### GRADE 1

**Life Question:** How do you bring happiness to others?

**Gospel Question:** What is Jesus' good news?

### GRADES 2-3

**Life Question:** How can you be good news to someone?

**Gospel Question:** What shows us Jesus is the Messiah?

### GRADES 4-5

**Life Question:** What signs that Christmas is coming do you see in your neighborhood?

**Gospel Question:** In what ways is John the Baptist important to Jesus?

### GRADES 6-8

**Life Question:** What signs tell us what our times are about?

**Gospel Question:** What signs in Jesus' ministry show us who he is?

### GRADES 9-12

**Life Question:** When has a real dialogue changed your mind about a person?

**Gospel Question:** What is great about John the Baptist?

### ADULTS

**Life Question:** How has what you expect of God changed over time?

**Gospel Question:** In what ways is Jesus the Messiah we expect?

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

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

## “We are Catholic” Says Patrick Madrid, Renowned Radio Network Host

We are Catholic because all the evidence shows that the church founded by Jesus Christ is the Catholic Church, renowned author and apologist Patrick Madrid told more than 260 men and women at an event sponsored by Faith & Ale and Faith & Wine at Saint John the Evangelist Parish on November 13.

Madrid told the assembly that his faith was solidified in his late teens when his former girlfriend’s father tried to wean him from his cradle Catholicism with challenging questions. Rather than give in to the pressure, Madrid said he sought answers to the misconceptions and falsehoods put forth by the well-meaning Protestant. Ultimately, through reading and research, Madrid came to the point where he was convinced that historical fact and divine revelation show that the Catholic Church is the true church founded by Jesus Christ.

Madrid has written more than 20 books on the Catholic faith. His daily radio program, “Right Here Right Now”, is heard around the world on the EWTN Radio Network. One of the country’s most sought-after Catholic speakers, Madrid has participated in numerous debates with Protestant experts.

Both Faith & Ale and Faith & Wine hold their monthly events at St. John’s Parish Life Center Ballroom. To learn more, visit [www.faithandale.com](http://www.faithandale.com) and [www.faithandwine.com](http://www.faithandwine.com). Their next joint event will be held on February 19, 2014, when they welcome Catholic Answers Live host Patrick Coffin. The event will be held at St. John’s and tickets are available at [www.faithandwine.com](http://www.faithandwine.com).

*text submitted by  
Patrick G. Novacosky  
Faith & Ale*

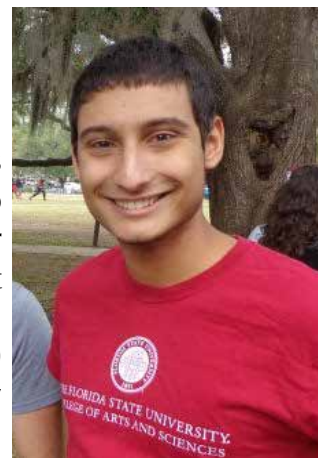


# **st. john the evangelist youth ministry** **SPOTLIGHT ON...Alumni!**

## **Anthony Dina**

### **Freshman, Florida State • BCHS '13**

**Anthony Dina** may be away at college, but he is certainly missed! Anthony was involved in many ministries, growing up in the parish—from altar serving to lecturing; to even playing the trumpet on occasion at Mass, among others. For these and for his many services to youth ministry at St. John he was co-recipient of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual **John Joseph Ludden Award** (along with Tiana Ferrante), an award named for Fr. John's own father, and given to the graduating senior(s) who have contributed the most to youth ministry. We caught up with Anthony at school to see how he's keeping the faith while staying busy in school:



*What are you liking best about college so far?* **My favorite part about college thus far is the freedom. There are so many new experiences to be had and friends to be made and the freedom I have allows me to take part in everything I want to do. Unlike high school, I'm not in class all day from 7-2 so I have a lot more time to get involved.**

*What's proven the most challenging thing?* **The freedom! Having a lot of free time can be blessing, but it was hard to acclimate to at first. I found that to avoid abusing it and getting no work done, I had to dedicate time each day to my studies and not Netflix.**



*Has it been easy to practice your faith at FSU? How so?* **It has been easy to practice my faith so far because I chose to get involved in a Catholic group (Catholic Student Union) run by the Brotherhood of Hope. This group has provided me with wonderful friends and opportunities to grow in my faith. The friends I made there provide me with the motivation to attend the group's events, and Sunday Mass when I'd rather just sleep.**

*How is the Catholic community there? What's it like, etc.* **The Catholic community here is very loving and accepting. My first time attending a CSU event, I felt extremely welcome. Everyone there wants to get to know you; the brothers are easy to talk to, and actively seek to create a relationship with you.**

*What were your fondest memories of youth ministry at St. John?* **My fondest memories of the youth group are the mission trip to St. Lucia and the snorkeling trip we took.**

*What advice would you give to high school students about keeping the faith?* **My advice to high school students about keeping the faith is surround yourself with friends that share your faith, for it is friendships built on Christ that last. Those friends are the ones that will build up and push you to grow. I would also advise you to ask lots of questions. If something is bothering you about the faith, do not keep it inside. Ask someone. Have your concerns addressed. My last piece of advice would be to always keep talking to God. Our relationship with God is like any other; if you don't keep talking to him, if you don't seeking to strengthen the relationship, it will fade.**

**Anthony invites any teens considering FSU to contact him for more information. See Tom Oram for his contact info!**

**Middle School youth meet Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7, in the Youth Room.  
High School teens meet Sundays, 6 to 8, in the Seminar Room.**

## BIG BAND DANCES STARTING SOON.

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

January 14, 2014

January 28, 2014

February 11, 2014

February 25, 2014

March 11, 2014

March 25, 2014

April 8, 2014

*The Big Sock Hop is scheduled for Friday, January 31, 2014*

*Oh Lord, how precious is your Love, we seek your Holy Will.*

### The Ladies of Charity Annual Christmas Food Drive for our local soup kitchens

Ending: **December 28-29**

- 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 St. Vincent de Paul Council.
- The Ladies of Charity will designate the money collected to be used during the summer months when food shelves are near empty.

**Thank you for helping us stock the soup kitchens.**



# faith & ale

a GATHERING of CATHOLIC MEN

### upcoming events:

January 15, 2014: Fr. Dennis Cooney

February 19, 2014: Patrick Coffin

March 19, 2014: Fr. Robert McTeigue

April 23, 2014: Patrick Novecosky



### fr. jim simko

WHAT'S WRONG WITH PORN?

The parochial vicar at St. John the Evangelist, Fr. Jim was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Denver in 1991. He returned to Florida 10 years ago.

**Wednesday, Dec. 18**

**6 pm - 8 pm**

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

Suggested donation at the door: \$20  
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)



# SAINT ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

542 Eighth Avenue South, Naples, Florida 34102 . 239.262.4110. www.stann.net

## Grand Raffle



*Save the date!*

### 2013 Dolphin Mega 7 Grand Raffle Drawing

December 19, 2013

at the Christmas Program

Don't miss out on your chance to win the following prizes!

1st Prize \$2,500

2nd Prize \$1,000

3rd Prize \$500

You may be the lucky winner!



*In appreciation of another wonderful year, the Saint Ann School students, faculty and staff invites you to join us for our Annual Christmas Program & Concert.*

*Thursday, December 19, 2013*

*1:00PM & 6:30PM*

*Jubilee Center*

**FEATURING:** Saint Ann Beginning & Advanced Bands  
Saint Ann Parish Youth Choir  
Fifth Grade Bell Ringers  
All students in grades 2, 3 & 4

## JOIN FATHER JOHN AND YOUR ST. JOHN FRIENDS

### TO THE **EASTERN CARIBBEAN**



SAINT JOHN  
the EVANGELIST

**8 Days ~ From Only \$794**

**January 18 - January 25, 2014**

*\*Receive \$25 per person discount on this cruise when making final payment by cash or check!*

**Only 5 Cabins Remaining.**

**Save the Date!**

January 11, 2014 ~ PreCruise Reception from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the PLC Ballroom. Refreshments - wine/cheese, etc. will be served. Fr. John will celebrate Mass at 5:00 p.m. in Church.

**PRIVATE  
MASSES  
WITH  
FR. JOHN**

**Reserve your cabin with only \$250 per person.**

**FOR INFORMATION, PRICING SCHEDULE AND RESERVATIONS CALL:**

**APRIL WILLIAMS**

Toll Free: **800.741.1770**

push **1** then ext. **6409**

e-mail: [awilliams@allaboardtravel.com](mailto:awilliams@allaboardtravel.com)

[www.allaboardtravel.com](http://www.allaboardtravel.com)

**Parish Contact: Dave Quist • 239-594-2071**

e-mail: [dquist@comcast.net](mailto:dquist@comcast.net)

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Celebrity **X** Cruises®  
aboard the  
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[www.celebritycruises.com](http://www.celebritycruises.com)

**COCKTAIL  
PARTY!**

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH, NAPLES, FL

The Very Rev. John J. Ludden, pastor

Thomas Oram, pastoral musician

Ellie Roberts, choir director

& the St. John the Evangelist Adult Choir

## PILGRIMAGE AND PERFORMANCE TOUR TO

# Ireland

From \$4,099. Interested?  
Call Corporate Travel Service to  
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\*\$350 deposit due, with no further  
payment until April, 2014. Land-only trip  
also available (subtract \$1100). Single  
rooms available for \$500.

## September 9-18, 2014

### Your 10 Day Pilgrimage Includes:

- Eight (8) nights accommodations: 2 nights in Galway, 3 nights in Killarney, 3 nights in Dublin
- Performances per the itinerary (subject to confirmation):
- Eight (8) full Irish breakfasts, and six (6) dinners, including Knappogue Castle Medieval Banquet and an authentic Irish Hooley
- Luxury motor coach for airport transfers in Ireland and specified sightseeing
- Pilgrimage sights in Ireland: Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, St. Brigid's Well, Rock of Cashel, Book of Kells, St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Catholic Tour escort while in Ireland
- Batt Burn's performance entitled, "Whisperings of Ireland"
- Entrance fees to all sites per itinerary
- Daily Mass at unique and historic sites
- Hotel taxes and portorage for 1 piece of luggage per person
- Gratuities payable to guides, drivers and local service personnel
- Round trip air from Fort Myers, FL to Dublin, Ireland including fuel surcharges and government imposed fees of \$550 as of 04/09/13; final amount subject to change.

For more information and the full itinerary, email Tom Oram at [tom@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:tom@saintjohntheevangelist.com)

