


December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent



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

## Christmas: The Gift of Christ Light

Dear Friends of St. John the Evangelist,

The celebration of Christmas every year calls to mind the great initiative of God bringing the Light of the World into our lives. Before Christ entered the world, the people yearned to be closer to God. The Christ-event in the humble stall of Bethlehem changed history forever. The Incarnation is a reminder to us all that it is God's wish to love us and be close to us from now and through eternity. As we celebrate the Feast of Christmas let us hold this knowledge deep in our hearts so that it can penetrate our minds and shape our lives.

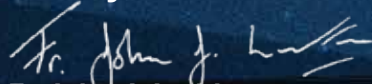
Christmas is filled with the precious memories of the past where we were surrounded by the warmth and the closeness of those most important to us. Some will occupy our pews for the first time this Christmas without those they have loved and cherished for so many years. Some have lost spouses, children, grandchildren, siblings and friends. Whilst Christmas is filled with the joy of remembrances of the Christ child, angels and shepherds, it is also a reminder that there is a void in one's heart when celebrating Christmas for the first time without a loved one. I pray that each of you in the parish who have lost someone you love this year will not forget the promise of the one who was born in the stable. Jesus is a reminder that God is forever close to us – journeying with us now and through all eternity. God will reunite us all with the ones we have loved and lost.

The many efforts of the various ministries, councils, and social groups that make up the parish of Saint John the Evangelist show that no one has to be alone. The endeavors of every group enable the Church, as the People of God, to live and breathe. Our parish mission statement, "To Know, To Love, and To Serve," is very much incorporated into the many hours of time that the people of the parish devote to the Lord and to others. To all those who serve the parish I offer my thanks and the thanks of my brother priests, deacons, and fellow staff members. I also offer my thanks to all of you as parishioners of Saint John the Evangelist for your generosity and dedication to God.

May the Christ light continue to shine for each and every one of you, especially when the days begin to grow long. Be assured of my prayers and blessings for you and your families.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. John J. Ludden



625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108 • Phone 239.566.8740 • Fax 239.566.9117  
www.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.



<b>Mass for Deceased (+) and Special Intentions</b>	<b>Requested by</b>
<b>December 20, 2014 Saturday</b>	
8:00 AM + Frederick Willshire	Nelly - Wife
	<b>Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>
3:00 PM + Albert Dudley	Tom & Natalie Moellering
5:00 PM + Thomas Linnane & Family	Helen Fedeli
<b>December 21, 2014 Sunday</b>	
7:00 AM Sharon McCarthy	Joseph McCarthy
9:00 AM + Al & Joan Moser	Children
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM + Sadie Salloun	Mary & Bob Verville
5:00 PM Fr. Joseph O'Neill	Veronica & Family
<i>Wine &amp; Host in Memory of Nicholas Senatore ~ Requested by Rosalie &amp; Daughters</i>	
<b>December 22, 2014 Monday</b>	
8:00 AM + Natalie & Mildred Fedeli	Son
9:00 AM + Janice A. O'Connor	Douglas O'Connor
<b>December 23, 2014 Tuesday</b>	
8:00 AM + Lewis Albero	Daughter
9:00 AM + William Enright	Helen Enright
<b>December 24, 2014 Wednesday ~ Christmas Eve</b>	
8:00 AM + Ernie Woonsam	Harrison Family
9:00 AM + Leo Durante	Durante Family
3:00 PM + Ozzie D'Addario	Janet D'Addario
5:00 PM + Marsh & Perotto Families	Deborah Marsh
10:00 PM + Al & Joan Moser	Children
<b>December 25, 2014 Thursday ~ Christmas Day</b>	
7:00 AM Mass for the Unborn	Respect for Life Committee
9:00 AM + Anthony & Jean DeCesare	Kay & Joe Reid
11:15 AM + Patricia Sullivan	Dick Sullivan
1:15 PM + Harold Atzingen	Wife & Children
<b>December 26, 2014 Friday</b>	
8:00 AM + Dr. Richard Finucane	John & Maureen Wurtz
9:00 AM + Robert Martin	Ginny Martin
<b>December 27, 2014 Saturday</b>	
8:00 AM + Margaret Barrett	Veronica Glennon
	<b>Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>
3:00 PM + John Cusano III	Bob & Mary Duels
5:00 PM + Margaret Barrett	Veronica & Family
<b>December 28, 2014 Sunday</b>	
7:00 AM + DeFrancesca & Vell Families	Peter DeFrancesca
9:00 AM Sharon McCarthy	Joseph McCarthy
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners	
1:15 PM + Robert Martin	Ginny Martin
5:00 PM + Matthew & Helen Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. John Fredrickson Family

## SPECIAL OBSERVANCES AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, December 20, 2014

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

### Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

### Sunday, December 21, 2014

**Fourth Sunday of Advent; Winter begins**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

### Monday, December 22, 2014

1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

### Tuesday, December 23, 2014

**St. John of Kanty**

Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

### Wednesday, December 24, 2014

**The Vigil of Christmas**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79; **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]; **Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

### Thursday, December 25, 2014

**The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20; **Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

### Friday, December 26, 2014

**St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa**

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

### Saturday, December 27, 2014

**St. John**

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

### Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

### Sunday, December 28, 2014

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

## MASS INTENTIONS...

## Mass Times ~ Christmas and New Year

### Wednesday, December 24

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

### Thursday, December 25

*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)

### Wednesday, December 31

*Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

5:00 p.m.

### Thursday, January 1, 2015

*Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

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

## NURSERY WILL BE 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.

### *Bishop Dewane Will Celebrate Christmas Day Television Mass for Homebound at 10:00 a.m.*

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). Please check your cable provider for channel listings. Leaflet missals are available upon request by calling 941.486.4714 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).

## Safe Environment Training Will Be Held at St. John January 8 and January 10

As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment.

“As Christian adults, we have a moral and legal responsibility and are entrusted by God with the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of minors and vulnerable adults. As they participate in activities within or sponsored by our diocese, it is our commitment to provide an environment which is safe and nurturing. (<http://dioceseofvenice.org/programs/safe-environment/safe-environment-home/>)

Parishioners will have the opportunity to attend a Safe Environment Training session here as two sessions have been scheduled at St. John. The first session is Thursday, January 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Seminar Room in the Claussen Center. Another session will be held Saturday, January 10 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Library. In addition, other sessions will be offered in other locations throughout the diocese. Visit <https://mlsvc01-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/45669ebe001/7efd2d57-c343-40b8-b5fe-ce066c4ed74c.pdf> for additional times and locations.

For further information regarding Safe Environment Training, visit the Diocesan website at [www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/safeenvironment). Report all abuses against minors to the Florida Department of Children and Families at 800.962.2873. To report abuse by Diocesan personnel or volunteers, please also call the Diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Barbara DiCocco at 941.416.6114.

## Coming in January Cub Scouts Pancake Breakfast with sausage and bacon Sunday, January 4

Available after 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.  
and 11:15 a.m. Masses  
in the St. John Ballroom

~ Donations Accepted ~

Sponsored by St. John Cub Scouts Pack 226

### Masses at Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities

Friday, December 26  
+ Loretta Rainey

10:00 AM

Harbor Memory Care  
req. by Nannette Dahl

## PARISH CLERGY



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

Fr. Len Gioeli	Associate
Fr. Jim Simko	Associate
Deacon Hal Brenner	
Deacon Forrest Wallace	
Deacon Frank Paniccia	Senior Status
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**  
Jean-Paul Boucher: 228.3910  
**Fax:** 239.566.9117  
[jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com](mailto:jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com)

**Parish Secretary**  
Deborah Marsh

**Assistant to the Pastor**  
Tricia Schwarz

**Pastoral Musician and Liturgist**  
Tom Oram

**Choir Director**  
Ellie Roberts

**Sacristan**  
Lorna Woonsam

**Director of Family Mission**  
Jean-Paul Boucher

**Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor**  
Kathy Sims

**Memorial Garden**  
Jean-Paul Boucher

**Religious Boutique**  
Jackie Gibson: 228.3921

**Director of Maintenance**  
Richard Neville: 566.8740

**Education Staff**  
**Director of Faith Formation**  
Margie Lynch: 228.3904/3909

**Director of RCIA**  
Margie Lynch: 228.3909

**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) When on the website, click on the **Forms** tab at the top of the home page and select New Parishioner Form. Download the form, complete it and return the completed form to the parish office or drop in the collection basket.

## St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111<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.

### **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 2015.

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

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

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

## PARISH INFORMATION...

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



## Hymns for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20 & 21

Readings:	<b>619</b>
Entrance Hymn:	<b>77</b> The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns
Preparation Hymn:	<b>179</b> Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
Communion Hymn:	<b>227</b> This Is Jesus
	<b>363</b> Isaiah 49
Closing Hymn:	<b>63</b> O Come, O Come Emmanuel * <b>verses 1, 5, &amp; 6</b>

### Choral Anthems at 9 & 11:15 AM Mass

Prelude	<b>When Will We See the Little One?</b>	<i>Althouse / Albrecht</i>
Communion	<b>With This Communion, We Thank You</b>	<i>Jay Althouse</i>

## Hymns for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, December 24 & 25

Readings:	<b>5 PM Eve: 621</b>	<b>10 PM: 622</b>	<b>7 AM: 623</b>	<b>3 PM Eve, 9, 11 &amp; 1 Day: 624</b>
Entrance Hymn:	<b>79</b>	O Come, All Ye Faithful		
Preparation Hymn:	<b>87</b>	O Little Town of Bethlehem		
Communion Hymn:	<b>84</b>	Silent Night		
	<b>92</b>	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear		
Closing Hymn:	<b>94</b>	Joy To the World		

## ANTIPHONS for WEEKDAY MASS

**Monday, December 22: Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Ps 24 (23): 7*  
O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory!

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Lk 1: 46, 49*  
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
for the Almighty has done great things for me.

**Tuesday, December 23: Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Is 9: 5; Ps 72 (71): 17*  
A child shall be born for us,  
and he will be called God, the Almighty;  
every tribe of the earth shall be blest in him.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Rev 3: 20*  
Behold, I stand at the door and knock:  
if anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me,  
I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.

**Wednesday, December 24: Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *Cf. Gal 4: 4*  
Behold, when the fullness of time had come,  
God sent his Son into the world.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**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.

**Friday, December 26: Feast of St. Stephen, first martyr**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

The gates of heaven were opened for blessed Stephen,  
who was found to be first among the number of the Martyrs  
and therefore is crowned triumphant in heaven.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Acts 7: 58*  
As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, Lord Jesus, receive  
my spirit.

**Saturday, December 27: Feast of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist (Patronal Feast of our parish)**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

This is John, who reclined on the Lord's breast at supper,  
the blessed Apostle, to whom celestial secrets were revealed  
and who spread the words of life through all the world.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *Jn 1: 14, 16*  
The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,  
and from his fullness we have all received.

by Jean-Paul Boucher

General Manager

jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com



As part of an on-going effort to communicate the renewed focus and efforts of our Parish Mission, I wanted to start a new series in our bulletin, Getting #ToKnow Our Staff. Each week, we will spotlight a staff member here at St. John, including some of their responsibilities and background. That way, if you have a question, or need some assistance, you can put a name and face to those that will be helping you.

### Getting #ToKnow Our Staff – Facilities and Project Manager Rich Neville

St. John has some of the most beautiful and engaging church facilities in Southwest Florida (in my humble opinion). This is due to a large group of volunteers (especially our Buildings and Grounds Committee) and staff that work tirelessly year-round. These facilities continue to serve our parish well, even as they reach into their second decade and beyond. You may have seen in the past few months, however, that we have taken a very active and proactive stance in cleaning and maintaining our buildings. This is due in large part to one of our newest employees, Rich Neville.



*It was a wandering path that led me to Saint John the Evangelist. I had just declined an offer from an organization that I had been interviewing with for three months. After a few minutes I began to question the practicality of my decision. In my heart I felt that if it took that long to make a hiring decision they would not be decisive in the management and development of their properties. Thirty minutes later Scott called me and we had a brief and honest conversation about St. John and the buildings and grounds. I knew this was where I was supposed to be.*

*I have 20 years of experience in commercial and multi-family construction management. Much of that time spent in repair and renovation. I find that I am drawn to more challenging projects.*

We have already seen Rich’s capabilities significantly enhance our abilities here at St. John. From leveling our parking lots during Parish Beautification Day, to managing

complex concurrent projects for air conditioning, fire control, and cleaning at the same time, we are blessed to have Rich on staff, leading the charge.

*I am excited about the future of Saint John the Evangelist.*

### #ToKnow – New Wineskin for Programs at St. John: Life Center Introduction

For those of you who have been following my weekly discussions here, you may remember my penchant for Our Holy Father’s discussion how our Catholic Church must focus on renewal in order to draw, keep, and engage all people to our faith. He uses the Gospel of Luke to showcase how Jesus ask for “new wine” to be put in “new wineskins” ([http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/cotidie/2014/documents/papa-francesco-cotidie\\_20140905\\_new-wine-new-wineskins.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/cotidie/2014/documents/papa-francesco-cotidie_20140905_new-wine-new-wineskins.html)). St. John is pressing the grapes for our new wine as we speak, with new and renewed programs and events for all the members of our Parish Family every week, from Trunk-or-Treat to Dad’s Rule CYO-like sports programs to the Divorced and Separated Support Group to the Widows Social Activity Program. What we really need, however, is a new wineskin to put all these wonderful efforts into.

We are today introducing a new chapter of Saint John the Evangelist. We have been given the approval by the Bishop to build a new facility on our campus, a “Life Center”. This



Parish Mission & Life continues on page 7

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new Life Center will become the beating heart of the parish, constantly in motion with activities and events for the entire spectrum of individuals and families at St. John and the community as a whole.

There is a desperate need in the area of Naples to provide an active and involved community that includes events, programs, nourishment, and engagement, especially for Catholic individuals. Youth and young adults are leaving the Catholic Church because they are not finding connection to their lives. Too often, families and individuals will leave the parish grounds immediately after Mass, or simply pass by church on their way to sports or musical events at other churches in the area. The Life Center will become the beacon of activities for North Naples, from morning coffee and get-togethers for parents after dropping their children at school, card games and wellness activities for retirees after Mass, to afterschool activity programs for middle schoolers, to evening musical events on the stage with refreshments. It will be a place where our most “experienced” parish members can meet and talk over coffee and some food.

The Life Center provides something for everyone. Full-service, pre-prepared food for breakfast, lunch, and snacks as well as evening intermission drinks and hors d’oeuvres. Easy, resort-style exercise facilities along with high-impact, crossfit-style space for those who are looking to get into and stay in shape. Basketball courts for pick-up games and a theatrical stage for plays. Kid-friendly game room and play yard as well as adult contemplative space. Outdoor seating for relaxing, bocce courts for team play, and a fishing dock to spend time with other members of the community. There will be events and programs around the clock to enliven the parish and connect us all to each other and our faith.

Please stay tuned in the bulletin and online for more details that will be forthcoming on the Life Center.

## #ToLove – Upcoming Social Events at St. John

We are fast approaching 2015 and with the New Year comes several major social activities here at St. John. Here are a few that deserve special mention so you can make sure they are all on your calendars:

- **February 1: Super Bowl Party** – We may not know who is playing this year quite yet, but we are looking forward to hosting a Super Bowl Party in our Ballroom with food, drinks, games, and camaraderie. Please remember to book your tickets early (the price will stay the same it has since we started the party eighteen years ago, \$25 a person) since we sold out over a week early last year.



- **February 7: “Senior” Prom** – When was your senior prom? 1940s? 1960s? 1990s? Hasn’t happened yet? Come re-live that night here at St. John with food, drinks (no, you will not need to smuggle your drink in a flask, we will be carding all of you at the door) for this brand-new event sponsored by both the Men’s Club and the Youth Group. Come dressed in your best Prom attire, and if you do not have a dance partner, do not fret. We will have dates waiting at the door for pictures, corsages, and multi-generational music and dancing. This is an all-out Prom theme extravaganza and all proceeds will benefit the parish family trip to Philadelphia to meet the Pope and the World Meeting of Families.
- **February 12: Knights of Columbus Valentine Dance** – The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Valentines Day Dance on February 12. Snuggle up with your Valentine and dance the night away! All the proceeds will go to local charities, like Guadalupe Social Services.



**Altar Servers:**

Jean-Paul Boucher  
jp@saintjohntheevangelist.com

**Arts & Liturgical Environment:**

Kay Sanfelippo 949.7122

**Calling & Caring:**

Deacon Al Groh 566.8740

**Eucharistic Ministry**

Nace Baier and Mary Ellen Metro  
EMMinistry@sjecc.com

**Homebound**

Call the Office 566.8740

**Hospital**

Mary Ellen Metro maryellen@  
saintjohntheevangelist.com

**Greeters & Ushers:**

John Smith 598.2306

**Jamaica Mission:**

Jeanne Stamant 514.0290  
(summer) 413.739.7609

**Lectors:**

Victor Yopez 290.9090

**Youth & Family Mass Lectors**

Miguel Castillo miguel@sjecc

**Prayer Group:**

Linda Reilly 821.8982

**Respect Life:**

Rosemary Erickson 597.3941

**Pastoral Stewardship Council:**

President/Contact Jack Kindsvater  
stewardshipcouncil  
@saintjohntheevangelist.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. Third Thursdays at 7 p.m.

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

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

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

**Arimatheans.** A group of caring parishioners who support parishioners by attending funerals as

representation of our faith community. Elaine: 566-8160

**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 566.8740

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

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

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

**Grief Support.** Sessions will run for seven consecutive Tuesdays beginning October 14 at 10 a.m. Dee: 594.7193

**Hospitality Ministry.** Volunteers serve light refreshments for parishioners who gather after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses for sharing, communicating and extending fellowship. If interested in helping contact Elida Gil: 239.597.8909 or Judy Hemond: 561.779.6024

**Job Search Skills & Support.** Mondays 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the library. Free. Carol Marlow: 948.0050

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

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

**Knights of Columbus Arthur J. Corr Assembly 3308.** Meets third Tuesday of every month at

Noon. Visiting Knights are invited. S/K Gary Ray: 596.4976

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

**Ladies of Charity.** Meets the second Friday of every month, volunteers in Immokalee schools, the Guadalupe soup kitchen and clothing bank and visits local nursing homes to assist residents who want to attend Mass. For friendly visits and simple errands for the homebound, call Diane 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: 248.877.3332 or Richard Bergeron: 593.6092

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

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

**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. Rosemary Erickson: 597.3941

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

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

**Sing-A-Long.** Tuesday, January 6 at Bentley Village-Skilled at Naples - at 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 20 at Harbor Memory Care - at 2 p.m. Jayne Potter: 598.5483

**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. and Monday evenings. Maggie Miller: 239.687.0687 or maggana@comcast.net or Linda Reilly, 821.8982

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

## PARISH MINISTRIES & OUTREACH PROGRAMS & EVENTS...

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



## PRAYER GROUPS

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

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

### *Cenacle of Life Prayer Group*

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

### THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

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

<b>Cpl. Francisco Alvarenga</b> U.S. Marines	<b>Marine Lt. Colonel Brian Howlett</b> U.S. Marine Corp
<b>Sp. Petrus Botha</b> U.S. Army	<b>AT3 Corinne MacFarlane</b> U.S. Navy
<b>S. Isaiah Brutus</b> U.S. Air Force	<b>Lt. John Meyers</b> U.S. Army
<b>Ensign Stuart Campbell</b> U.S. Navy	<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	<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>Lt. Robert Pedrigo</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>Cpt. Martin Palmer</b> U.S. Army (Afghanistan)
<b>Cpl. Dylan Granza</b> U.S. Army Ranger	<b>Pvt. 1st Class Aron Siwek</b> U.S. Army
<b>Specialist Shelby Granza</b> U.S. Army	<b>Lt. Kelly Spencer</b> U.S. Air Force
<b>S. Sgt. Patrick H. Hammer</b> U.S. Marine Corp * LAV Recon (Afghanistan)	<b>Houng Tran</b> U.S. Army
<b>Specialist Douglas Hennessy</b> U.S. Army	<b>IT2 Jason E. Tydingco (USN)</b>
	<b>SSGT. Matthew Watson</b> U.S. Air Force (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. 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. Wednesday

Centering Prayer will meet weekly after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

### *Liturgy of the Hours*

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

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

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

## PRAYER LIST

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

Eileen "Liz" McNulty

*May they rest in eternal peace.*

Deacon Al Rich Annunziata Fernando Ardila Tomas Ardila Elizabeth Arena Otto Backof Agatha Barczyski Dick Becker Jimmy Bee Howard Begley Margie Benefico Barbara Berg Grayson Berry Linda Berry Mary Bessner Elizabeth Bommarito Kathleen Bradach Pat Brody Genevieve Brown Patricia Bruno Julie Butler Frank Caccavo, Jr. Nancy Campbell Cathy Carroll Christine Cassara James Castaldi Rosalie Castro Marie Castry Michael Cataldo Mary Rose Cefaratti Diane Centenaro John Chiravallatti Chloe Frank Ciccarelli Gerald Clancy Claussen Family Pat Corr Nancy Cote Michael Cotteta Violet Crane Forest Crowley Anthony & Edna D' Antuono Esther Davis Barbara de Mauriac Nathan Dent Jim Diamante Julie Dieter Al DiMenna Alexandria Dolkas	Leon Doughty Ann Marie Esposito Marie Fabiano Claire Fabrizio Steve Ferrante Brian Patrick Ferreira Taelor Fiedler Patrick Finck James Fish Donna Flynn Darlene Folllese Jim Folllese Edward Gaynor Theresa & Paul Giandina Richard Goepel William Grogevant Helen Graff Sam Hardy Reg Hart Raymond Hartwick Virginia Hartwick Harriet Hayes Joseph Hennessy Richard Hennings Gerard Heyen Charlotte Hollohan Peggy Hooper Jeff Horkey Colton Horvatt Donald Howe Michael Hutchins JMG JRB Jan J. Bobbie Johnson Lucy Debra Jones Chester T. Kauffman Peggy Kegaly Lisa and Dave Kepner Kevin Kincaid Pam Kirk Krista Kozowyk Jim Krauser Family Lilian Kudile Cammie Lake and baby Josephine Lancia Lindsay Lavery Diane Leahy Mary Jane Leake	Dan LeBlanc Tash & Brian Lee Mary Lenick Leta Catherine Lombardo Lillian Luchini Jeanne Macari Mary Jo Magner Ann Maniuszko D. Martin Barbara Massey Barbara McCabe Sharon K. McCarthy Catherine McCusker Carolyn McDonald Simone McGaffee Carolyn McNichols Ed Moriarity Alisa Morgan Elsie & Ken Moskal Eddie and Anne Murphy Forrest Murphy Paige Nelson Peter Nicoletta Gloria Oliver Emma O'Rourke Edmund Ostos Michael "Jesse" Owens Maryla Panagos Piccirelli Family Albert Pellegrino Rayna Perez Megan Peterson Philip Petrone Barbara Picicci Patricia Poczatek Joe Pohrer Jean Prather Richard Pratt Baby Gage Presnell Mary Alice Qualls Nancy Reddy Joe Reid Aurelia Rein David Rohan Tony Ross Jerry Salvi Edna Sanvidge	Bud Sauser Cynthia Scariati Peter Scariati Cathy Schloendorn Charles Schumacher Debra Sciacqua Claire Scott Jane & Bob Shengulet Teresa Shengulet Karen Shing Judy Siderio Barbara Silva Louis Simonini Marianna Smith Winnie Smith Dan Spreng Frank Squartino Justin Strickland Susan Stokes Kathy & David Struble Pat Sutter Joanmarie Switalski Tara & Family Rita Taranto Margaret Tomaszewski Lorraine Torrance Patricia Trapnell Betty Vallerand Pat Velasquez Mary Ellen Wheeler Mary Ann Williams Lisa Tomei Wilton Tom Wood Bob Wright John & Mary Yotis Mary Youlio
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**LET US PRAY...**

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

DECEMBER 21, 2014 ~ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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



### A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT INVITATION:

A "St. John  
Philharmonic Evening"  
~ Gourmet Dinner  
with Fr. Jim & Fr. John ~  
January 17 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the St. John Library

includes dinner & entertainment featuring:

*Tony Avalon singing Sinatra during cocktail hour, Ellie Roberts singing Italian opera and Tom Oram with a sweet sing-a-long during dessert.*

*Dinner includes:* Appetizer, Italian Wedding Soup, Antipasto, Chicken Parm & Pasta, Italian Cream Puffs, Pizzellis, Cappuccino and Wine

**\$125 per person**  
- only 4 seats remaining!

If interested or for more info,  
call Lou at 450-6004

The staff at Saint John  
the Evangelist wishes  
all of our parishioners  
and their families  
and friends a joyous  
Christmas  
and  
a happy and healthy  
2015.

**The 2015  
Saint John the Evangelist  
Catholic Calendar  
will be available next weekend.**



## Annual Christmas Appeal

The 13th Annual Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal is underway and needs your support! The Christmas Appeal runs through January 2015. This year's goal is to raise \$525,000. The Catholic Charities Christmas Appeal is the largest annual fundraiser and critical to operating this social service organization. Gifts provide funding for the many Catholic Charities programs and services available throughout Southwest Florida. Your generosity enables us to serve those seeking help all year long. To donate please mail a contribution to Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice, Inc. 5824 Bee Ridge Road, PMB 409, Sarasota, FL 34233-5065 or visit [www.catholiccharitiesdov.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesdov.org).

## Marriage Enrichment Retreat

Join other couples for a weekend to renew and strengthen your marriage in the richness and beauty of the Catholic Faith the weekend of January 9 -11 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice. Jim and Maureen Otremba will present a marriage enrichment program that provides spirituality and techniques for having a grace-filled marriage. Register at [www.dioceseofvenice.org/enrichment](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/enrichment) or call Angela at 941.484.9543.

## Save the Dates:

### Diocesan Women's and Men's Conferences

**The 2015 Diocese of Venice Women's Conference** will be held Saturday, February 14 at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers. **The 2015 Diocese of Venice Men's Conference** will be held Saturday, March 7 at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers. Registration details will be forthcoming.

### Anniversary Mass Celebration at St. Leo Saturday, March 14

All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in two locations: February 7 at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice and March 14 at St. Leo Parish in Bonita Springs. Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. Registration Information will be announced next month.

## Spotlight on Stewardship: Did you know?

Did you know that **Extraordinary Ministers** from Saint John the Evangelist distribute the Holy Eucharist to Catholic patients of NCH North Naples Hospital? From July 1 through September 30, the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist visited 686 patients at NCH and distributed Holy Communion to 388 patients. Additionally, they distributed Holy Communion to 145 Catholic friends and family of the patients and the Catholic medical staff.

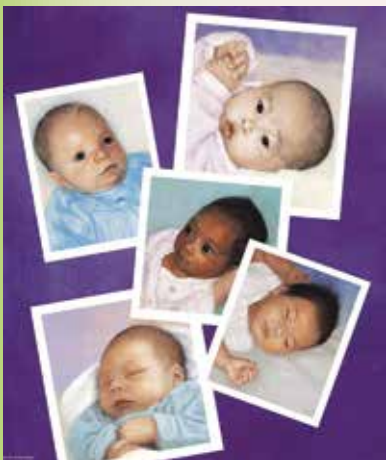
If interested in becoming a **Hospital Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist**, please contact Mary Ellen at [maryellen@sjecc.com](mailto:maryellen@sjecc.com)



## "Here I Am!" HAPPY BIRTHDAY SPIRITUALLY ADOPTED BABY!

### MONTH 9- Here I am!"

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



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

"The next Novena of Masses for Life at St. John will be Wednesday, December 25 at 7:00 a.m. This Mass will be celebrated in special observance of the life of Jesus in the womb of our Blessed Mother.



*Luke 2:10-14 - The angel said ... "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

# 5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid

## Sunday, December 21, 2014:

### the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Opening Song                      **Your Grace Is Enough**    Matt Maher            CCLI Song No. 4477026 © 2003 spiritandsong.com  
 | Thankyou Music | (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing). All rights Reserved. CCLI License #2008891.

*Verse 1*  
 Great is your faithfulness, O God  
 You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart  
 You lead us by still waters into mercy  
 And nothing can keep us apart


*Chorus*  
**For your grace is enough, your grace is enough**  
**Your grace is enough for me!**

*Pre-chorus*  
 So remember your people, remember your children  
 Remember your promise, O God

*Verse 2*  
 Great is your love and justice, God of Jacob  
 You use the weak to lead the strong  
 You lead us in the song of your salvation  
 And all your people sing along (to pre-chorus)

Kyrie                                      •            **5A**    *hymnal*

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 89) Music by Tom Oram, © 2011 A Chasing After Wind Music (BMI). All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Response (cf. v.2a)   
 For - ev - er I will sing the goodness of the Lord. For - ev - er I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation            •            **11A**    *hymnal*

Preparation Song    **179 Hail Mary: Gentle Woman**  
 Carey Landry

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



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

**I Will Exalt You** Brooke Fraser  
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1. I will ex - alt You. I will ex - alt You.  
2. Be - cause You're with me. Be-cause You're with me.

I will ex - alt You. You are my God.  
Be-cause You're with me, I will not fear.

My hid - ing place, my safe re - fuge. My treas -  
- ure, Lord, You are. My friend and King, A - noint -  
- ed One. Most ho - ly.

Closing Song

63 O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 1, 5, & 6) Traditional

## The O Antiphons and Advent

Tom Oram

Each of the seven verses of **O Come, O Come Emmanuel** is associated with a particular day of the Octave (or “eight days”) before Christmas Eve, the “Golden Nights”: December 17<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The “O Antiphons”, as they are known, each employ a different title for the Messiah, as foretold by the prophets Isaiah and Micah, of Jesus the Christ. The Church has used them at Vespers (Evening Prayer) for as many as fifteen hundred years, and perhaps even longer. They include, beginning on December 17, O **S**apientia (O Wisdom), then O **A**donai (O Lord), O **R**adix Jesse (O Root of Jesse), O **C**lavis Davidicae (O Key of David), O **O**riens (O Dawn), O **R**ex gentium (O King of nations), and O **E**manuel (O God with us). In a fascinating detail, the first letters of each title, read backwards, also spell the Latin phrase **ERO CRAS**, “Tomorrow, I come”, a phrase completed only on Dec. 23 with the singing of the final antiphon. Thus: after we have called upon the Lord to come to us, he answers us, “**ero cras!**”, referring to his coming in the great Solemnity of the Nativity! The antiphon for today, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, O **O**riens, is translated below (cf. Isaiah 9:2). (V.5 was Saturday’s antiphon.)

**O Oriens**, splendor lucis aeternae, et sol justitiae:  
veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

O Dawn, splendor of eternal light and sun of justice:

Come, and enlighten those sitting in darkness and the shadow of death.



# The Word & Life

**2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16**

**Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27-29**

**Romans 16:25-27**

**Luke 1:26-38**

## *Humble Servant Says “Yes” to God*

**I**t is the tradition of the Church to focus on the person of Mary for the last Sunday of Advent. Over the last 2000 years of Christian history, the Church never worshipped Mary but gave her a place of honor. Mary has a central place in our Church and hearts because she bore the Son of God in her womb and gave birth to the promise of salvation. Have you ever wondered what Mary was doing the day that the angel Gabriel came to her? Was she about her household chores or out taking a walk, pondering life? That we will never know! However, what we do know is that this young virgin, who seemed to be like any other girl of her day, received an extraordinary call and task to which she said yes. Mary’s ‘Yes’ was a response of total abandonment and trust. She did not know how she could conceive without engaging in intimacy. Asking this simple question and listening to the angel’s answer gave her the confidence that anything is possible for God: “May it be done to me according to your word.” The day the angel left Mary was the beginning of her journey which would lead her deeper into the heart of God.

Mary of Nazareth is a model of discipleship for us. She is the greatest of the Saints. Mary is the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church. The abandonment, that Mary witnesses to, encourages us to abandon ourselves to what is nonessential and embrace God’s will. Throughout the Scriptures, we see that Mary contemplates the events taking place, holding them sacred to her heart. Likewise, we are asked to prayerfully consider where God is in our lives and acknowledge the sacred gifts that He has set before us. In the midst of the suffering of Jesus who was put to death as a result of Roman capital punishment, she stands by her Son’s executioners and supports him as the life drains from his veins. She returns to the upper room of fears to await his return. All the time she ponders these things in her heart, trusting in God’s mercy.



As we approach Christmas Day, we reflect on our human experiences that make up our individual stories. For many there is a lot to celebrate — memories of the past and joyful events in family life over the last year. For others, sadness comes upon them because



loved ones have passed away or because of a family or work problem. Regardless, in all of these human events, God is with us. Each of us stands on the holy ground of our experiences. No matter how joyful or sorrowful our lives are, each one of our lives is sacred. Like Mary, we are invited to ponder the great gifts that God puts in our path.



## Reflection Questions

1. Who was Mary?
2. What relevance does she have for us as Christians?
3. What risks does she take?
4. What characterizes the life of Mary?
5. How am I inspired by her life?
6. What risks shall I take for Christ?
7. How do I understand my life?
8. What role do I play in the economy of salvation?
9. How can my life become an expression of the good news of Christ's presence?

## Prayer

*Mary, we ask you to pray for us. You give witness to us of the joys, trials, and tribulations of life. Pray to our heavenly Father for each one of us. Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Mother and the Mother of the Church — may we be led by her example, so that we can be brought close to your heart. Amen.*



*Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons*

## Voices of Faith

### Lady of Grace

The simplicity of a maiden girl  
 Filled with humility and gentleness  
 Radiates the beauty of God  
 Vessel of God's grace  
 She protects the essence of God's love  
 In the warmth and security of her womb

This lady of grace journeys forth in haste  
 to Elizabeth, both relative and friend  
 The olive trees shroud the arid hillside of Judah  
 Testaments of life amidst barren landscape  
 Life bursts forth in a land parched with thirst  
 And in lives hungering for God

Entering into humble abode  
 Mary is greeted by a woman of faith,  
 All is possible for God  
 As the infant within sacred womb  
 Leaps for joy  
 For one who was once considered barren

“Blessed are you among women,”  
 The Spirit-filled cousin did say,  
 “And blessed is the fruit of your womb.”  
 The sacredness of God's presence is noted  
 The promise of Israel comes true  
 The prayers for Messiah are granted

But how could it happen  
 That the mother of the Lord comes to one in such lowly estate?  
 How could it be that a lady of grace, humble though she be  
 A Blessed believer in Word fulfilled?  
 For such is the greatness and graciousness of God  
 To find his promise and dwelling in the humble of heart

God remains also with man  
 As he makes his way through life  
 The sacredness of God presence is found within every soul  
 The great towering cathedrals  
 And the humblest chapel upon hillside green  
 Reminders of the eternal promise of Emmanuel

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

# Faith Formation



The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

## Mark Your Calendar

**December 21 – January 4**  
*Christmas Break*  
*(No Faith Formation Classes)*

**January 7**  
*Wednesday Classes Resume*

**January 11**  
*Families in Christ*

**January 21**  
*First Reconciliation Rehearsal*

**January 22**  
*First Reconciliation Ceremony*

## Faith Formation News

**Christmas Break...**There are no Faith Formation classes from December 21, 2014 through January 4, 2015. Please have a blessed and safe Christmas season.

**Wednesday Classes Resume...**on January 7, 2015 after the Christmas break.

**Families in Christ...**is on January 11, 2015 at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the ballroom.

**First Reconciliation Rehearsal...**will take place on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the church. Both parents should be at the rehearsal as the ceremony involves both parents as well as the child.

**First Reconciliation Ceremony...**will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2015 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.



## Behind the Surprise

By Janel Esker

My husband turns fifty this year, and his family traditionally expects a giant surprise party when each of the eleven siblings hits the big 5-0. However, I've already informed my in-laws that (1) my husband doesn't want a party and (2) I exhausted my party-planning abilities on our wedding reception: "I'll be incapable of throwing any more parties until 2075." After all, while the moment everyone jumps out and yells, "Surprise!" is terrific, it takes a heck of a lot of coordination, work, and careful—often sneaky!—planning to get there.

I sometimes wonder if the angel Gabriel was accompanied by a heavenly chorus of angels shouting, "Surprise!" to Mary. How shocked she must have been at this unexpected announcement. The gospel tells us she was "greatly troubled"—she must have been confused and very afraid, not only at being chosen for such a profound mission, but also at the prospect of being an unmarried pregnant woman in a society that stoned such women to death.

Yet behind this "Surprise!" was God's magnificent plan. The surprise was on Mary and on us—that God would dare to become human to bring salvation to all people. Despite her initial shock and fear, Mary was open enough to trust God's plan and speak the yes that transformed the world.

Our preparations for this great surprise (better known as Christmas) are ending soon, yet we know the divine plan continues to unfold. God no doubt has plans to surprise us—with comfort in our pain, with a challenge for our growth, with a mission for us to undertake. Will we be open enough to say yes like Mary? And how might our yes transform ourselves, others, or even the world? †

Bringing Home the Word, December 21, 2014, Liguori Publications

## REFLECTION

Mary holds a special place in Catholic tradition because she says yes to becoming the mother of Jesus, who is God. Each of us is also special. Each of us can bring God into the world with our actions of love, care, and respect toward our friends, our families, people outside our circles. God blesses us as God blesses Mary and fills her with grace.

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

## St. Nicholas

Legends abound about this saint but we know that he was orphaned at a young age when his wealthy parents died. Generous to a fault, he reportedly threw money down a chimney to enable a poor man's daughters to marry. This is the image that makes him the model for Santa Claus. As bishop of Lycia (now Turkey), he fought against heresies plaguing the church in the fourth century. He was devoted to charity and the protection of the weak.

Growing in Faith, December 2014, Success Publishing & Media, LLC

## PRAYER

Lord, all things are possible with you. Help me know my inner truth of love and goodness and manifest this totally in my relations with others.

Rev. Warren J. Savage & Mary Anny McSweeney

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS THIS WEEK

### Preschool

**Life Question:** Can you say the "Hail Mary" prayer?

**Gospel Question:** Who is Jesus' mother?

### GRADES K-1

**Life Question:** When do I say yes to people?

**Gospel Question:** What is a way you would like to be like Mary, Jesus' mother?

### GRADES 2-3

**Life Question:** Who have you waited for a long time?

**Gospel Question:** How does God bless Mary?

### GRADES 4-6

**Life Question:** What is hardest and best about waiting for Christmas in your family?

**Gospel Question:** What is a way you want to be like Mary?

### GRADES 7-10

**Life Question:** What impossible things does God make possible for you?

**Gospel Question:** What impossible things does God do in Mary?

### ADULTS

**Life Question:** What are you too old for God to do in you? What are you too young for God to do in you?

**Gospel Question:** How is Mary's call to be the mother of God like the call of every Christian?

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

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# Faith and Wine

**Very Rev. John J. Ludden**  
Pastor of St. John the Evangelist  
Thursday, January 8, 2015

## Pope Francis, Pastor of the Church: Our New Pope Facing Contemporary Issues



6:30-8:30 PM (Doors open at 6:00 PM)  
St. John the Evangelist PLC Ballroom  
625 111th Avenue North, Naples

**\$20 prepay**  
(includes light dinner, glass of wine/beverage, and speaker)

Father John Ludden, one of our most popular speakers, returns to Faith and Wine to talk about Pope Francis, one of our most remarkable Popes. This is expected to be a sell out so don't delay in reserving your spot!!

*Free babysitting available on site!!*

### Save the Dates!

February 19 – Father Leo Patalinghug\*\*  
March 12 – Valli Leone  
April 9 – Father George Ratzmann  
\*\*Joint event with Faith & Ale

Please prepay for this event no later than noon on January 6th by going to [www.faithandwine.com](http://www.faithandwine.com) or dropping off exact cash (no change) or your check made payable to "Faith and Wine, Inc." to the St. John parish office.. Or you can mail (post-marked before January 2nd) your check to Mary Beth Clary, Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP, 9132 Strada Place, 3rd Floor, Naples, Florida 34108.

**NEW THIS YEAR - You must prepay - NO WALK-INS!**

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).

*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: January 31, 2015

- A tree is outside the front of church 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 Guadalupe Soup Kitchen, St. Matthews House and the St. Vincent de Paul Counsel. Last season each charity received \$3000 each.
- 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.**



**upcoming events:**

- Feb. 19, 2015: Fr. Leo Patalinghug, Grace Before Meals
- Mar. 18, 2015: Larry Blanford, Green Mountain Coffee
- Apr. 15, 2015: Fr. John Ludden, St. John the Evangelist



**tom peterson**  
*free to be ... you!*

Tom Peterson is the founder and president of Catholics Come Home, an apostolate which produces television ads encouraging lapsed Catholics to return to the faith.

**Wednesday, January 21**  
**6 pm - 8 pm**

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

Suggested donation  
at the door: \$15

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)

**BIG BAND DANCE**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**First Dance of the Season**

**Tuesday, January 13, 2015**

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

*Dance to the Music of the Big Band Era*

*Featuring the Live Southwest Florida 16-piece Orchestra*

*Sounds of Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller & Stan Kenton*



**Big Band  
Dance  
Schedule**

**Tuesday,  
January 13**

**Tuesday,  
January 27**

**Tuesday,  
February 10**

**Tuesday,  
February 24**

**Tuesday,  
March 10**

**Tuesday,  
March 24**

**Tuesday,  
April 14**

**Admission:**

\$10.00 cash  
only at the door  
~ includes snacks

**Cash Bar:** Water  
and Soda ~ \$1.00

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

- Wine and  
Mixed Drinks  
~ \$3.00

**Dress:** Country  
Club Casual  
(No shorts please.)

*Singles Welcome*

*Sponsored by  
the Men's Club*

*Created by the St. John Sewing Group*



*This is a small sampling of the shorts, shirts, dresses and blankets with stuffed animals made by the ladies in our Sewing Group. The items were donated to the Collier County Public School System on December 10 for distribution to the children of migrant workers who attend Naples Park Elementary School.*

# **Casino Night - Jamaican Style**

**To Benefit Jamaica Outreach Program**

**Very Casual Attire, Open Bar, 5000 Free gaming chips**

**Food Stations (5:30-7:00 pm) - Gaming (6:30-9:30 pm)**

**Play games like Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, Poker, Slots on Genuine Vegas Tables  
Professional Dealers will coach and entertain you.**

**Your chance to win great Raffle prizes— you must be present to win.**



**Friday, Feb. 6, 2015 5:30 p.m.**

**St. John Ballroom - 625 111th Ave N.**

**tickets \$50 per person**

**Also Wanted! Sponsors! call Jeanne 239-514-0290**



**Mail checks payable to Jamaica Outreach, P.O. Box 110581, Naples, FL 34108-1929**

**Or, call Jeanne Stament 514-0290. Or buy/donate at [www.jamaicaoutreach.ORG](http://www.jamaicaoutreach.ORG)**

The Casino gaming tables are provided for entertainment purposes only by:  
Casino Party Nights Florida, Inc. tel: 954-926-4219 . Donations and proceeds go to JOP.



# Jamaica Outreach Program JOP Christmas Tea

The poor in Jamaica will be blessed with net proceeds of over \$5,900, as a result of the Seventh annual JOP Christmas Tea, which was held Wednesday, December 3. Some 287 people attended, which included a champagne reception, vendors, entertainment and the traditional tea, sandwiches, scones and sweets.

“The scones and food served by Here’s Howe were exceptional,” said Jeanne Stamant, event organizer.

Ten gentlemen served the guests champagne upon arrival or sold raffle tickets or photographed the event. Tom Palmeshan played Christmas music on the piano and Bob Lyons gave a Jamaican style to Christmas music on his steel drums. Donors of gifts made it possible for us to offer four valuable silent auction items and 28 lucky ladies won raffle prizes; 14 others won door prizes. Three vendors sold gifts, floral arrangements, jewelry or crafts and each donated a percentage of their sales to the charity. “The ballroom always looks so festive at this event” said one St John staff member.

Thank you to the committee, volunteers, and St John staff for helping to make this one of the most successful Teas yet.

*text submitted by JOP*





# JOIN FATHER JOHN AND YOUR ST. JOHN'S FRIENDS ON AN ULTIMATE CARIBBEAN CRUISE

## 12 Days From Only \$1,394\*

Private Masses  
with Father John!



Cocktail  
Party!



### JANUARY 11, 2016

Date	Port	Arrive	Depart
Jan 11	Fort Lauderdale, Florida - board Celebrity Equinox		4:30pm
12	At Sea	~	~
13	George Town, Grand Cayman	8am	5pm
14	At Sea	~	~
15	Cartagena, Colombia	7am	4pm
16	Colon, Panama	8am	6pm
17	Puerto Limon, Costa Rica	7am	6pm
18	At Sea	~	~
19	Belize City, Belize	9:30am	6pm
20	Cozumel, Mexico	8am	5pm
21	At Sea	~	~
22	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	7am	

**Booking Bonus:** Book and Deposit an oceanview or above stateroom by **Jan. 4, 2015** & choose **one** of the following offers. OR book a Concierge Class or higher and receive **ALL THREE**.

- Free Beverage Package** - Receive Classic Beverage Package for two guests per stateroom, including spirits, valued at \$88 per day, with beverage gratuities covered by Celebrity.
- Free Gratuities** - Per person Gratuities of \$132 thru balcony, \$137.50 for Concierge Class & Aqua Class and \$170.50 for suites
- Onboard Credit** - Receive \$300 per stateroom

#### Parish Contact:

**David Quist**  
239.594.2071

email: [dquist@comcast.net](mailto:dquist@comcast.net)

Interested in sharing a room with another single?  
email: [dquist@comcast.net](mailto:dquist@comcast.net)

#### For Reservations Call:

**April Williams**

Toll Free: **800.741.1770**  
push 1 then ext. **6409**

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

Ask about our  
shore excursions.

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**800.741.1770**  
[allboardtravel.com](http://allboardtravel.com)



12530 World Plaza Lane #1 | Fort Myers, Florida 33907

Prices are per person USD. All prices are plus applicable cruise, government, hotel & departure taxes and fees as well as any applicable cruise line fuel surcharges. (All cruise lines reserve the right to reinstate a per person fuel surcharge at any time). Prices are subject to change without notice and are based upon availability. Cash/Check discount (if discount applies) does not apply to 3rd & 4th passengers in a cabin. Penalties apply per Cancellation Policy listed on back of flyer. Cruise itineraries are subject to change without notice. We reserve the right to correct any errors or omissions.

\*Receive \$50 per person discount on this package when making final payment by cash or check!

Reserve your cabin with only \$450 per person

Celebrity **X** Cruises®  
aboard the  
**Celebrity Equinox** (aug. 2009)  
[www.celebritycruises.com](http://www.celebritycruises.com)

Custom Motor Coach from  
**Saint John the Evangelist Church Included.**  
(Free Parking Behind Claussen Center.)

Departure Date **01/11/16**

#### Pricing Schedule...

Category RS (royal suite with balcony)	\$6,944
Category S2 (sky suite with balcony)	\$3,244
Category C2 (concierge class with balcony)	\$2,194
Category 1A (balcony)	\$1,884
Category 1B (balcony)	\$1,864
Category 1C (balcony)	\$1,844
Category 2A (balcony)	\$1,824
Category 2B (balcony)	\$1,784
Category 8 (ocean view)	\$1,644
Category 9 (interior)	\$1,534
Category 10 (interior)	\$1,494
Category 11 (interior)	\$1,474
Category 12 (interior)	\$1,444

All Package Taxes & Fees **\$235**

(These include applicable government, transfer & departure taxes and any fees)

Vacation Protection suggested **Call for price**

Fuel Surcharge (if applicable) ... prevailing rate

Document Concierge Service ... **optional \$25 per cabin**

(This includes passenger registration, ordering of luggage tags, printing & mailing cruise documents.)  
Cruise, shore excursions, and transportation is the sole responsibility of Celebrity Cruises any shore excursion company and motor coach company. St. John the Evangelist parish, the Diocese of Venice, and or any of their employees shall be held harmless in the event of any liability or litigation incurred as a result of this contract.

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