

December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent

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

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

see page 5

**Fourth Annual
Sneaker and
Sock Drive Ends
December 18**

see page 10

**We Say Good-Bye
to Jackie Gibson,
Gift Shop Manager**

see page 13

**2016
Christmas Choral
Concert, Friday,
December 9**

see page 20

Vocations Dinner Honors Salesian Sisters and Supports Seminararians



Grand Knight William Warvel presents Bishop Frank J. Dewane with a check for \$10,000 to support vocations at the annual Vocations Dinner on Friday, November 18. The event paid special tribute to the Salesian Sisters at St. John Neumann Catholic High School.

see additional Vocations Dinner photos on page 11



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

Daily Mass: 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.; Wednesday Evening: 6:30 p.m.; Saturday Mass: 8:00 a.m.
Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil: 3:00 & 5:00 p.m. — Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:15 a.m., 1:15 & 5:00 p.m.

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

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

December 3, 2016 Saturday

8:00 AM + Jozica Vitulich Husband Romano & Daughter Claudia

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

3:00 PM + Robert Ulliana Marion & Philip Ulliana

5:00 PM + Lieselatte Niebur Herbert & Elizabeth Stopper

December 4, 2016 Sunday

7:00 AM + Martha Defrancesca Peter Defrancesca

9:00 AM + Michelle Walsh-O'Connor Bob & Norma Claussen

11:15 AM For Our Parishioners

1:15 PM + Bill Seymour Wife Judy Seymour

5:00 PM SI Vincent Ventura Maria & Curtis Binns

Wine and Host in Memory of Michael and Kevin Leclerc ~ req. by Lorraine Leclerc

December 5, 2016 Monday

8:00 AM + Shea Maurer Tim & Mary Pettay

9:00 AM SI Frank & Mary Lou Kreber Ann Miller

December 6, 2016 Tuesday

8:00 AM + Bill Seymour Wife, Judy Seymour

9:00 AM + Jean DeCesare Kay Reid

December 7, 2016 Wednesday

8:00 AM + Joseph Toi Pham Dolores Kernochan

9:00 AM + Linnae Eddy Fedeli Dick & Helen Fedeli

6:30 PM + Laura A. Weber Liz & Bob Koplitz

December 8, 2016 Thursday ~ Holy Day of Obligation

8:00 AM + Robert Moore Mr. & Mrs. Peter Zarrelli

10:00 AM + Linnane Family Dick & Helen Fedeli

Noon SI Patrick Kirk Family Mary & Tom Sanders

5:00 PM + Peter Tenerowicz Dolores Donnelly & Bill McGrath

7:00 PM + Nicholas Senatore Wife Rosalie & Daughters Debbie & Jodie

December 9, 2016 Friday

8:00 AM + Thomas Calderbank June Hirsch

9:00 AM + Arthur Hildebrand Florence Hildebrand

December 10, 2016 Saturday

8:00 AM + Joseph Baiera Agnes Gaitens

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

3:00 PM + Cecilia & William Schultz The Schultz Family

5:00 PM + O'Keefe & Ryan Families Joanne Ryan

December 11, 2016 Sunday

7:00 AM + Sharon McCarthy Joe McCarthy

9:00 AM + Rosetta & Gianni Nardulli Giuseppie & Anna Nardulli

11:15 AM For Our Parishioners

1:15 PM + Barbara Silva Darlene & Jim Follse

5:00 PM + Daniel Fitzmaurice William E. Meyer, Jr. & Patricia Meyer

SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 3, 2016

St. Francis Xavier; Blessed Virgin Mary

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;

Mt 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;

Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;

Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday, December 5, 2016

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

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

St. Nicholas

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

St. Ambrose; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

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

Thursday, December 8, 2016

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Lk 1:26-38

Friday, December 9, 2016

St. Juan Diego

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

Saturday, December 10, 2016

International Human Rights Day

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

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

Sunday, December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

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

FREE Nursery Care for children ages

1 to 5 available during the following Mass times: Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. The nursery is located in the PLC, classrooms 5 and 6. A trained childcare provider is in attendance during these nursery hours.

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

MASS INTENTIONS...

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Campaign Corner

December 4, 2016

“How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God!” — Pope Francis



A Capital Campaign for
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Papal Nuncio Explains Our Plan to Bishops

It was extraordinary this past month that it seems the Papal Nuncio to the United States, the Vatican’s “ambassador”, and liaison between the Holy See and the US, has been reading all about our focus on youth engagement and how we are focused on creating a new way of engaging the youth of Naples in fellowship and activities, CYO. Well, he may not be reading our bulletin and website, but his speech to all the US Bishops on November 14 sounds like he has been paying attention and it certainly illustrates that we are on the right path:

Many adults lament that young people are not in the pews. If they are not in our churches, why are they not there?...

But we, the Church, have to seek them out to provide the occasion, the environment, and the moment that allows for this encounter. Do young people have a sense of being sought out, welcomed and appreciated enough that they can have this encounter with Jesus Christ through the Church? We know that youth are critical to the life of the Church, and that it is becoming increasingly difficult to transmit the faith to young people in a changing environment and in a Church in which very often they do not have a profound sense of belonging, even if they have the desire to belong. Our youth find themselves at the “peripheries” of both the Church and society. We must go out to them...

A new language, new methods, and a new missionary ardor is necessary so that each young person may experience tangibly the mercy of God. Our methods of evangelization require a profound reconsideration to see whether they are effectively communicating the authentic Christian experience - with closeness, simplicity, warmth and transparency.



Catholic Youth Organization



–Archbishop Christophe Pierre (<http://www.usccb.org/about/leadership/usccb-general-assembly/2016-november-meeting/usccb-general-assembly-november-2016-address-of-the-apostolic-nuncio.cfm>)

While the money has been pledged in our **Build Our Future, Serve Our Past** capital campaign to build our Life Center and some of our other urgent needs, we still need our entire Parish Family to give in order to reach our additional goals, including the detailed execution of the above programs. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Lichwalla, the Campaign Coordinator at 239.495.2001 or email: campaign@sjecc.com.

You can also learn more information about our Capital Campaign at: <http://www.sjecc.com/future>.

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

PARISH CLERGY



Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor

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

Altar Servers:

Jean-Paul Boucher jp@sjecc.com

Arts & Liturgical Environment:

Kay and Andy Sanfelippo 949.7122

Eucharistic Ministry

Maureen Reed EMMinistry@sjecc.com

Homebound

Call the Office 566.8740

Hospital

Mary Ellen Metro maryellen@sjecc.com

Lectors Ministry

lectors@sjecc.com

Greeters & Ushers:

Bill Fuller wfuller1@comcast.net
239.280.8870

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH*

Sacrament of Baptism. The Diocese requires that parents seeking baptism for their child attend a baptism preparation class. To schedule a baptism class, parents must be registered practicing members of St. John's for a minimum of two months. *Deborah Marsh: 566.8740*

Sacrament of Matrimony. Those who wish to be married in our parish must complete the Marriage Preparation Program. The Diocese requires a six month notice. *Tricia Schwarz: 566.8740*

Anointing of the Sick/Funeral

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

All Administrative Staff

239.566.8740

General Manager

Jean-Paul Boucher: *Ext. 3910*

Fax: 239.566.9117

jp@sjecc.com

Assistant to the Pastor

Tricia Schwarz

Parish Secretary

Deborah Marsh

Front Office Manager

Kathy Mooney

Pastoral Musician and Liturgist

Gary Prettyman

Artistic Director

Jennine Fuentes

Sacristan & Martha's Guild

Lan Tran

Director of Family Mission

Jean-Paul Boucher

Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor

Kathy Sims

CYO Social and Spiritual

Coordinator

Kyle VanDuser

Memorial Garden

Jean-Paul Boucher

Bookkeeper

Karen Beebe

Religious Boutique

Ext. 3921

Maintenance

566.8740

Education Staff

Director of Religious Education

Natalie Campbell: *Ext. 3904 and 3909*

Coordinator, Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Jack Kindsvater: *Ext. 3918*

email staff members at:

info@sjecc.com

FOR OUR RECORDS

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

Thank you!

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

www.sjecc.com

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108

Phone: 239.566.8740 • Fax: 239.566.9117

www.sjecc.com

Administrative Office Hours are:

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

(until all are heard)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday Evening: 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Masses:

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

Sunday Masses:

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

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

5:00 p.m. Contemporary Mass

Choirs:

Adult Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

Residents and seasonals welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Children's Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

1-5. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Contemporary Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

especially welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Hospitality. Volunteers serve light refreshments for

parishioners who gather after the 9:00 and 11:00

a.m. Sunday Masses for sharing, communicating

and extending fellowship. If interested in helping

contact *Elida Gil: 239.592.7973* or *Darlene*

Follese: 495.9741

Divine Gift Boutique (located across from the

restrooms). **Season Hours:** Saturday from 2:00

to 5:00 p.m., Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. If

interested in volunteering, contact *Elaine: 566.8740*.

PARISH REGISTRATION

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

Mass Intentions. We are now accepting 2017 intentions.

Altar Flowers and/or Host & Wine. We have 2016 wine and host and flowers availability. Stop by the parish office to offer the wine and host and/or the altar flowers in memory or in honor of your loved ones.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

PARISH INFORMATION... OPERATIONAL

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

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

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

The regular Wednesday evening Mass on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. will also fulfill the holy day obligation.

Hymns for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, December 7 & 8, 2016

Readings:	36
Entrance Hymn:	196 Immaculate Mary
Preparation Hymn:	690 Mary's Song
Communion Hymn:	374 Servant Song
Closing Hymn:	691 Salve Regina

Christmas Programs

Christmas Choral Concert

Friday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

Christmas Eve Mass with Elementary-Age Children as angels and shepherds

Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m. in the Church.

see Area Advent Penance Services below

Mass Times ~ Christmas and New Year

Saturday, 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 9:20 p.m.)

Sunday, 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)

Saturday, December 31

Vigil of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Advent Penance Service at St. John

Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Local Area Advent Penance Services

St. William – Friday, December 9, at 5:30 p.m.
601 Seagate Drive, Naples

St. Finbarr – Monday, December 12, at 2:00 p.m.
13520 Tamiami Trail East, Naples

St. Agnes – Tuesday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m.
7775 Vanderbilt Beach Road, Naples

San Marco – Thursday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m.
851 San Marco Road, Marco Island

St. Elizabeth Seton – Monday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m.
2730 53rd Ter Sw, Naples

St John the Evangelist –
Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

St. Peter the Apostle –
Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.
5130 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples

#ToServe – Catholic Faith Appeal: Essential Support to Parish Services

A few months ago, I provided information about the Catholic Faith Appeal, the Diocese of Venice annual assessment of all parishes that assists with many programs here in Southwest Florida. From the Catholic Charities support for Golden Gate Senior Citizens and Immokalee Migrant Workers, to the Seminarian programs, the CFA is an essential program that we must focus our gifts to in any way we can. However, it has come to my attention that many of our Parish Family members may not understand the CFA and what it is for. The CFA is a Diocesan contribution in which all the members of the churches in Southwest Florida work together to support the central services we all rely on at Catholics and active community members. There are several essential efforts that rely on the CFA:

- **Catholic Charities:** As a leading provider of social services, Catholic Charities supports over 40,000 people with programs like direct assistance to pay their utility bills, emergency intake programs for those that have become homeless, ending human trafficking in our backyard, citizenship assistance, and veteran housing.
- **Catholic Schools:** It costs a tremendous amount to provide a high-quality education, and the CFA supports the Catholic Schools in the area to ensure all members of our community can have access to this faith-based education system through high school
- **Vocations:** From the Seminarian programs that instruct our future priests and deacons to providing support for the 35 different women’s religious orders and 26 different communities of brothers and priests within the Diocese, the CFA ensures we provide for the education and well-being for those who have dedicated their lives in service to us and our faith.

One component of the CFA that is not discussed frequently, however, is the set of programs that the CFA supports for our Parish Family. Below are a few of the initiatives that we could not accomplish here at St. John without the CFA:

- **Marriage Preparation:** All the Diocese marriage programs needed to be married at Saint John the Evangelist are funded completely through the CFA. If a Parish Family member is going to be married here or one of their children/grandchildren, they have the ability to be prepared here and can take all the preparations through these programs,
- **Religious Education:** The Diocese supports our youth and our adult Faith Formation programs

(Left to Right) Religious Education - Faith Formation and 40 Days for Life



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



with materials, schedules and additional catechesis opportunities. The CFA supports the certification of our catechists and the development of the schedules for Confirmation.

- **Good Works:** From the 40 Days for Life to Immigration Support for our Parishioners, the CFA provides resources for the good works of the parish. We give so others can have a better life, from picking themselves up with our direct support to supporting social justice initiatives.

Every year, the Diocese of Venice places a goal for each parish to provide a certain amount towards an overall need of the Diocese. It is true that St. John has been one of the primary supporters of the CFA and in fact we have normally been the largest contributor parish. For 2016, we have been asked to contribute \$518,000. We have understandably been focused on our Capital Campaign, which has been successful in reaching and exceeding our goals in very short order. However, that has clearly made it impossible for us to reach our CFA goal this year, and we currently stand at \$320,886. That is a large gap, and it will require the parish to direct our resources from operational efforts and savings to cover the shortfall.

Next weekend, we will have a second collection for our CFA Goal. This CFA Last Hurrah will include comments from some of the leaders of our Parish Family, from the Finance Council, the Pastoral Stewardship Council, and other members of our community that receive such wonderful programs and support from the CFA. I hope you will give them your attention and assist us with this necessary goal. If you have any additional gifts you wish to support Catholic organizations with, please prayerfully consider a donation to the Catholic Faith Appeal. Your support, which is fully tax deductible, will aid thousands in our area. You can donate via St. John by calling the office, giving to the Diocese directly at <https://secure.pledgeconnect.com/donation.aspx?catholicgiving>, or on our website: <http://sjecc.com/ways-to-give>

CYO - YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/netteam16

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

ONGOING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE SEVERAL CHANGES BELOW

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

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

THE ROCK (HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP)

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

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

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



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

“Retirement Fund for Religious” Collection Will Be December 10 -11, 2016

November 17, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital support to religious communities in meeting current and future retirement needs. Traditionally, Catholic Sisters, Brothers and religious order Priests-known collectively as women and men religious-worked for small stipends. As a result, many religious communities today lack adequate retirement savings. At the same time, elderly religious are living longer and now greatly outnumber younger, wage-earning religious.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct the annual collection for the “Retirement Fund for Religious”, the weekend of December 10 and 11, 2016. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and much more. Help is also provided to religious congregations to implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure quality eldercare.

Kindly support these men and women who have given their lives in service to our Church and the world, ministering to the faithful. Please join me in contributing to the Retirement Fund for Religious and pray for God’s Blessing on all women and men religious. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

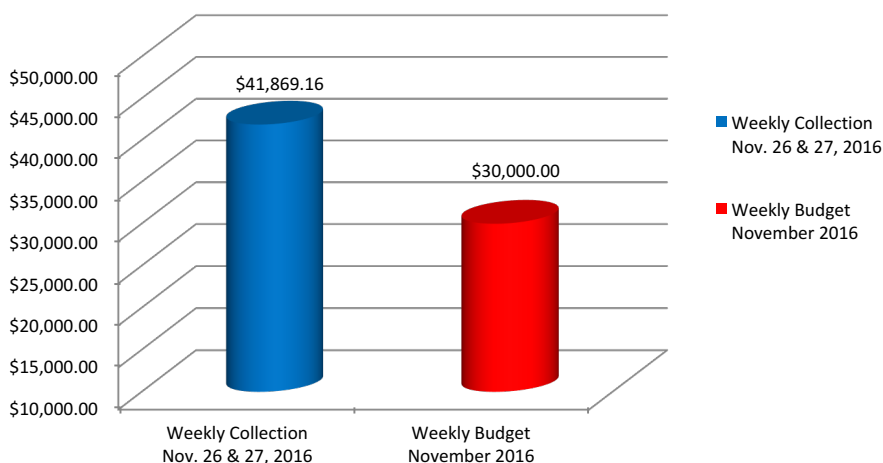
I take this opportunity to extend to each of you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family. Have a Blessed Advent Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

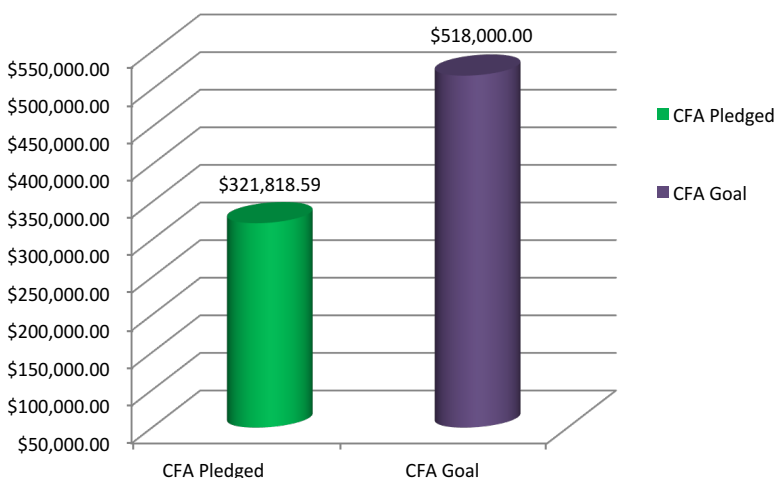
+ Frank J. Dewane

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

Weekly Collection Summary



CFA Summary



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PRAYER GROUPS

Pray The Rosary & The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Cenacle of Life Prayer Group
Patricia Bucalo: 248.0694

Divine Will Prayer Group
Gorana Saner: 293.1765

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina
Mondays: Maria Jones: 348.5361
Wednesday morning will resume in the fall.

Liturgy of the Hours
Phyllis Gryskiewicz: 566.7307

St. John Charismatic Prayer Group
"Blazing Hearts"
Linda Reilly: 821.8982

THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

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

Cpl. Francisco Alvarenga
U.S. Marines

Sp. Petrus Botha
U.S. Army

S. Isaiah Brutus
U.S. Air Force

Ensign Stuart Campbell
U.S. Navy

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

Adam Decker
U.S. Air Force

Nicholas Detloff
U.S. Air Force

Joshua Emmons
U.S. Air Force

LCpl. Conor Fleurant
USMC

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

Lt. Bernardo Garcia
U.S. Marines

Lt. Joseph Gilig
1st Marine Division
* LAV Recon

Cpl. Dylan Granza
U.S. Army Ranger
Sp. Shelby Granza
U.S. Army

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

Sp. Douglas Hennessy
U.S. Army

Marine Colonel Brian Howlett USMC

2nd Lt. Sean Kealey
U.S. Army

Lt. John Meyers
U.S. Army

LCpl. Randy A. Novak
USMC

LCpl. Ryan D. Novak
USMC

Ryan D. Novak
USMC

Cpt. Daniel Palmer
U.S. Army

Cpt. John Palmer
U.S. Army

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

Lt. Robert Pedrigo
U.S. Army

Lt. Joseph Schafer
U.S. Army

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

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

MidShipman Micaela Scudato
U.S. Naval Academy

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

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

Houng Tran
U.S. Army

IT2 Jason E. Tydingco
(USN)

Staff Sgt. Brandon Waithe
U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Andrew Zecchino
U.S. Air Force

OUTREACH & OTHER GROUPS

AA. Robert: 239.287.2442

Al-Anon. Carol: 804.306.5323 and
Juliette: Lysack

Narcotics Anonymous.

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

Mah Jong. Space Limited. Lanelle Bishop:
352.1860

Pinochle. Joseph DeJesus: 598.9865

Recovering Couples Anonymous. Britta:
348.5031 or Roger: 250.6888

PRAYER LIST

We remember those who have died recently, especially:

Jackie Gibson, Dorothy Keeler, Dorothy Shew, George Edward Taylor and Lewis Vail

May they rest in eternal peace.

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

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

Antoinette and Nicholas
Acquiviva
ADD
Steve Allender
Frank Angilella
Rich Annunziata
Fernando Ardila
Thomas Ardila
Paschal Arpaia
Paul Arpaia
Jean & Emmunale Balliro
Richard Becker
Margie Benefico
Barbara Berg
Gallen Boardman
Joe Bordelon
Teresa Brecht
Doug Callen
Carrie
Susan Chiappini
Tiffany Chill
Eric Christensen
Joan Ciccarelli
Dick Clark
Sam and Frank Comeriato
Fr. Gerard Critch
Kathryn Gallagan-Culp
Anthony D'Antuono
Mark Dabronzo
Donald Dempski
Florence Demski
Sandra Demski
Bernadette Dennis
DF
Carey Eliason
Coletta Farina
John Farrell
John Farrow,
Wendy Bui Fewell
Fiedler Family
Donna Flynn
Anna Focht
Tara Follese
Fran
Galloway Family
Edward Gaynor
Robert George

Emma Gilardi
Carlos D. Gomez
George Gonsler Jr
Joe Goss
Keri Grasso
Harry Grevey
Doris Heath
Gerard Heyen
Kim Hocker
Donald Howe
JM
JRM
KM
NC
Neil King
Pam Kirk
Krista Leigh Kozowyk
Jim Krauser & Family
Lindsay Lavery
Estelle LeChelavier
Rene Lacoste
Mary Lou Leibig
Arlene Lento
Delk Lindaman
Logan
Jack Lucarelli
Jean Lydon
Margie Lynch
Maria and Family
Ron Marlow
Ross Mart
Kenneth J. McAvoy
Kevin McDonagh
Carolyn McDonald
Carolyn McNichols
James Meleo
Beth Ann Meloche
Lorrie Morrison
Maxine Newman
Marylee Olsen
Emma O'Rourke
Maryla Panagos
Charles Parente Family
Michael Paul
Babe Pelli
Elizabeth Perez
Anne Perrino

Ann Petrillo
Pileggi Family
Irene Pires
Thad Pluc
Bill Porter
Renee Rake
Norjean Ray
John Reardon
Aurielia Rein
Cindy Renner
Peter Renner
Ruth Rechtsteiner
Allan Ring
RLC
Susit Romanovich
Jean Ruel
Lloyd Sample
Lisa Sanfelippo
Shelia Scaduto
Peter Scariati
Darlene Scerbinski
Mary Schell
Eli Schneider
Pat Schuler
Breana Short
Lisa Siegwarth
Thomas Sissman
John Smith
Solazzo Family
JoAnne Spehn
Anthony Spinella
Nancy Stewart
Susan Stokes
Rita Taranto
William J. Teplica
Domonic Terrogrossa
Gary Tester
John Thyen
Logan Uzzi
Denny VanWeelden
Lawrence Varone
Jothan Warner
Vera Weinstein
Sue and George Willis
Nancy Wise
Bob Wright
Ed Zerrer
Zoe

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like the name(s) you submit to be on our prayer list for longer than one month, please notify us by phone or email or the names will be removed. These names also appear on our online prayer list at: <http://saintjohntheevangelist.com/ministries/prayer-list>

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

DECEMBER 4, 2016 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jamaica Outreach Program

Welcome, Bishop Burchell McPherson, to Saint John the Evangelist

The second collection this weekend will benefit the poor in the Diocese of Montego Bay, Jamaica. We welcome Bishop Burchell McPherson as he visits our parish to advocate for the poor in his diocese and extend sincere gratitude in his name to our parishioners for their continued support of our outreach in Jamaica.



Bishop Burchell and
Pope Francis

Catholic-Jewish Dialogue Presents "Walking God's Paths" December 4

Catholic-Jewish Dialogue will present "Walking God's Paths - Part 3" "Common Texts - Different Scriptures" Film and discussion Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m.

The presenters will be Fr. Bob Kantor, Pastor at St. Agnes, and Rabbi Ammos Chorny, of Beth Tikvah Synagogue. The event will be held at Beth Tikvah, 1459 Pine Ridge Road. Please RSVP to cjdialogue@naples.net or 239.370.4277.

Music Department Looking for New Members for Children/Youth Choir for Liturgies and Concerts and Audio Technicians for Christmas Concert

The Saint John the Evangelist Music Department is looking for new members for our Children/Youth Choir. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children and youth of the parish to come together to enhance our liturgies with their angelic sound, while learning and growing in their choral/musical talents. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

Please contact Gary Prettyman, Pastoral Musician and Liutrgist, at 566-8740, ext. 3920 for more information or with any questions.

In addition to Sunday liturgies, we are preparing for our Friday, December 9 Christmas concert.

Additionally, we are in need of an audio technician for our December 9 Christmas concert. Please contact Gary, if available.

For the Love of Children

The Ladies of Charity 4th Annual

Christmas Sneaker and Sock Drive



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

Items must be NEW.

Starting: **November 26-27**

Goal: **500 Pairs**

Ending: **December 17-18**



- Ornaments depicting the children's different shoes sizes can be found on Christmas trees in the Narthex.
- Please take an ornament, or two, and generously donate NEW only sneakers and socks.
- Please wrap your package and be sure to attach your ornament to the outside of the gift box.
- You may also write a check to Saint John the Evangelist with "Sneakers Drive" written in the memo line. Your checks can be placed in the collection baskets passed during Mass or taken to the church office.
- Please bring your gift to the church by Sunday, December 18.



Please help us reach our goal of 500 pairs.

Vocations Dinner Honors Salesian Sisters and Supports Seminarians



photos by Philip Baier, Knights of Columbus

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Saint John Council #11281

Hymns for the Second Sunday of Advent, December 3 & 4, 2016

Readings:	34	
Entrance Hymn:	38	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Preparation Hymn:	44	A Voice Cries Out
Communion Hymn:	57	Comfort, Comfort, O My People
	338	Behold the Lamb
Closing Hymn:	43	People, Look East

Choral Anthems at 1:15PM Mass

Prelude:	Every Valley (<i>J.N. Beck</i>)
Communion:	Air for Advent (<i>Fettke</i>) or And the Glory (<i>Handel</i>)

5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid Sunday, December 4, 2016: the 2nd Sunday of Advent

Opening Song **594 Christ Be Our Light**

Presentation Song **56 Emmanuel**

Communion Song **338 Behold the Lamb**

Closing Song **Shout to the North** Martin Smith

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

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



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



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

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I want to be holy, just like you; I want to go where you lead me to,
With reckless abandon to your Truth,
I want to fall deeper in love with you!
prepare ye the way of the Lord

We Say Good-Bye to Jackie Gibson, Gift Shop Manager

We Will Miss You, Jackie

I have the unfortunate duty to inform our Parish Family of the passing of one of our most joyous, loving, and caring members of the staff, Jackie Gibson. Many of you may know her as Jackie, the Gift Shop Lady. Sadly, Jackie passed away Monday, November 28.

Jackie came to St. John well over two decades ago, and just like so many others, she saw a need. The church did not have a truly functional gift shop, where people could purchase religious items and sacramentals to enhance their worship and faithful lives. Instead of just giving the suggestion, however, she rolled up her sleeves and built the gorgeous Gift Boutique we all now love.

Her dedication was only matched by her warmth. I remember that Jackie was actually the first person to personally welcome

my family to St. John when we moved down here six years ago. My little children were being antsy, as many young ones are in the pews. I took them for a walk towards the bathrooms and we entered the Gift Boutique. Instead of ignoring us, or simply waving from behind the cash register, Jackie went out of her way to walk around the counter, bend down, and welcome each of my children with a smile. She gave them all a little trinket and thanked us for coming to church. It was a moment I will cherish forever, especially now that she is gone.

Please join the Parish Staff and Clergy in prayers for Jackie and her family. She will always be in our hearts. Services will be held on Tuesday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m., her birthday.

text by Jean-Paul Boucher, General Manager



Jackie loved meeting and helping customers.

Jackie took over the management of the Divine Gift Boutique in the summer of 2012 and renamed the gift shop with the help of her son.

"I wanted it to have its own unique recognition. My son Bill suggested Divine Gift. I love it because our boutique is simply Divine," she said in explanation of the new name.

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



After a complete remodel, which involved painting, adding a window to showcase merchandise, new slat walls, new display cases and new merchandise, Jackie Gibson, gift shop manager, and Fr. John cut the ceremonial ribbon Sunday, December 16, 2012.



Two years later after taking over the gift shop, Jackie Gibson, gift shop manager, and Fr. John cut the ribbon in a brief ceremony Sunday, December 8, 2014, officially opening the newly expanded and remodeled Divine Gift Boutique.

The Word & Life

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12

The Revolution of Hope

*A*s we gather to listen to the Sacred Scriptures on this Second Sunday of Advent, we are certainly encouraged to have hope. John the Baptist presents himself as the wild and unlikely prophet who foretells the coming of the promised Messiah — the one who would set the world on fire! His message is clear: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand...make straight His paths. As we continue along the Christian way, we are asked to prepare ourselves to receive Jesus into our lives as we approach the day of his birth. Our preparation should reflect our longing for God and a willingness to accept the message that Christ himself left as an eternal gift to the world.

Each individual lives a certain context in the world today. We live in specific communities, within specific states, and within specific countries. Our identity is forged by the world community into which we are born. As people of faith, we also find ourselves within yet another context. From the beginning of time, God sent patriarchs and prophets to lead us deeper into the reality of His unfailing love. The prophet Isaiah certainly sets the stage for a day of hope where all will experience unity and peace. In our first reading we hear: “The wolf will be the guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid...” How will we get to this point of perfect existence? The answer lies in the coming of the Christ — the Jesus of God, led by the spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength and knowledge, to give us a profound respect for God in our

lives and unending reverence for the promise that is ours!

People lose hope when they look at what is going on in the world today. The middle-east continues to pull at the fragile strings of peace and people repeatedly seek stability in their lives. Closer to home, the reality of suffering in our own stories can often lead to despair. However, our reason to have hope is found in the Christ event. We cannot lose sight of the adult Christ at Christmas. Jesus did not come to give us the answer to the world’s suffering, but rather entered into it himself. The whole message of Jesus and his acts of charity teach us to have hope and courage. The sign of the cross casts its shadow over Bethlehem itself — but it was not the light that gives its shadow, but the radiant dawn of the resurrection day that opened wide the gates of an eternal promise.



Reflection Questions

1. Why is the ministry of John the Baptist significant?
2. What does John say about the coming of the Messiah?
3. What surprises you about John's description?
4. What does it mean to make straight the path of the Lord?
5. How do you prepare to meet the Lord when you are getting ready for Mass or heading out to greet a new day?
6. How do you welcome Jesus Christ in your everyday activities?
7. Is this Christmas going to be different for you spiritually? Why or why not?
8. Are you making a straight path for the Lord in your life?

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



Prayer

Lord, as we prepare to celebrate the events of the Incarnation, teach us to have hope. As we approach this joyful season, may we remember days gone by with childlike wonder and recall the gift of family ties. May we also look forward to the day when we will meet you face to face and be reunited with those for whom we have shed many a tear. Let our longing be the song that unites us with your presence every day of our lives. Amen.

Wisdom of the Fathers

“The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ, joy is constantly born anew. ...

The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it and end up resentful, angry and listless.

That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ. ...

I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord”. The Lord



does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: “Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I

am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace”. How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. Christ, who told us to forgive one another “seventy times seven” (Mt 18:22) has given us his example: he has forgiven us seventy times seven. Time and time again he bears us on his shoulders. No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this

boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew.”

— Pope Francis: *EVANGELII GAUDIUM*
(*The Joy of the Gospel*), 1-3

Image: Pope Francis gives the homily as he celebrates Mass at the Parish of San Cirillo Alessandrino in Rome. (Catholic News Service photo/Paul Haring)

Faith Formation

2016-2017 School Year

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 4** Sunday Faith Formation Class
Parent Faith Formation Session
High School Confirmation Class
- 7** Wednesday Faith Formation Class
Parent Faith Formation Session
- 11** Sunday Faith Formation Class
Parent Faith Formation Class
High School Confirmation Make Up Class 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. - For anyone who started late in the year and missed one or more classes.
- 14** Wednesday Faith Formation Class
Parent Faith Formation Session
- 18** Sunday Faith Formation Class
Parent Faith Formation Class

Catechist Christmas Brunch 12:15 p.m.

- *Sunday Morning Classes ~ 9:30 -10:45 a.m.
*Wednesday Evening Classes ~ 5:45 -7:00 p.m.

Celebrating the Saints: Saint Nicholas



Saint Nicholas was a Christian Bishop who was known for his giving heart and for helping the poor. To celebrate his Feast Day and charity to the poor, there are those who follow the tradition of stuffing a boot or stocking with gifts. "Santa Claus" comes from the Dutch form of his name "Sinterklaas,"

His Feast Day is December 6. He is the patron saint of sailors, merchants and children. Saint Nicholas loved Jesus, and his life is a great example of how we are called to be charitable to the poor and to do acts of kindness in small ways whenever we can.

info: <http://usccb.org>

Celebrating the Second Sunday of Advent

Students in Mrs. Barson's 3rd Grade celebrate the Season of Advent by making Advent Wreaths to display in their homes.



Faith Formation Office Hours

Mondays: 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays: 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. (on the days of Faith Formation classes only)
Fridays: 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Sundays: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. (on the days of Faith Formation classes only)

Left: Joey and Emma in Mrs. Kristin Barson's 3rd Grade. Above: Rose and Thomas in Mrs. Kristin Barson's 3rd Grade.

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

Calling All Shepherds and Angels!

All Elementary School-age children are invited to participate in our annual 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass as angels and shepherds, proclaiming the joyous news of the birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ! If you are interested in being part of this wonderful celebration, please contact our Artistic Director, Jennine Fuentes, at jennine@sjecc.com, so she can provide you with the schedule of rehearsals.

photos from previous Christmas Story programs



"You cannot imagine how much better your marriage will be once you start applying Allen's life-changing wisdom to your relationship and life!"

-Matthew Kelly

Dynamic Catholic presents

PASSION & PURPOSE for MARRIAGE

What's the most important word in a marriage? What is really going on in your wife's head? What do you wish your husband knew about you? Discover key ingredients to a healthy and happy marriage at the **Passion & Purpose for Marriage** event. Take your relationship to a whole new level.

featuring

AUTHOR & SPEAKER DR. ALLEN HUNT

and musical guest George Lower

JANUARY 28, 2017

6:30PM-10:30PM

St. John the Evangelist

625 11th Ave. North • Naples, FL 34108

"I feel that Bill and I are in the trenches, so to speak, with our sweet littles, and it can become all too easy to neglect the nurturing our marriage needs to nurture Joshua and CC. You are answering a true need, and Bill and I feel blessed that Dynamic Catholic has touched our lives." Marie



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

TICKETS ARE \$25 PER PERSON.

Order online:

DynamicCatholic.com

or call **859-980-7900**

Tickets will also be on sale after Masses next weekend.

DynamicCatholic.com
Be Bold. Be Catholic.

Separated/Divorced Ministry 12-Week Healing Program Begins Wednesday, January 11, 2017

The Separated/Divorced Ministry is pleased to announce the winter session of our 12-week healing program, beginning January 11, 2017. Whether separated or divorced 10 days ago or 10 years ago, this program will offer valuable insight for everyone. The weekly sessions will include 30-minute DVD presentations followed by group discussions.

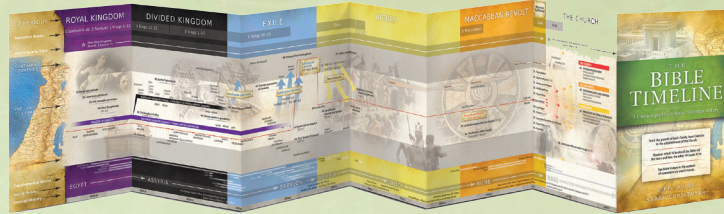
The video series topics are titled:

- Getting Your Bearings
- Finding Strength and Help
- Getting Through Your Anger
- Finding Perfect Peace
- Learning to Forgive
- Dealing with Your Family
- Handling Money Wisely
- Finding Perfect Power
- Seeing God in Romance
- Relearning How to Date
- Loving All Church Teachings
- Finding Perfect Passion

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

Please see next week's bulletin for more details.

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA



Have you always wanted to read the Bible?

Maybe you even started, in the beginning with Genesis, but then got bogged down around Leviticus. Remember the Bible is not a book, but a 73-volume library.

Most Catholics want to read the Bible, but without a guide they find it hard to begin and easy to give up.

Beginning in January

- read the **14 narrative books** of the Bible that keep the story moving, and discover the amazing story woven throughout Scripture
- learn how the key **people, places, and events** in the Bible fit together to reveal God's plan for humanity
- study the Bible from a **Catholic perspective** and see how our faith is rooted in Sacred Scripture
- see how the events in the Old Testament are **fulfilled in the New Testament** by Christ and the Church

- gain a **greater appreciation for the Scripture** readings you hear during Mass
- see how **God reveals himself** to us through Scripture and learn how **God's Word applies** to your life today
- develop a life-long hunger for knowing God in his word and **lay a strong foundation** for further Bible reading and study

Beginning in January two programs will be offered.

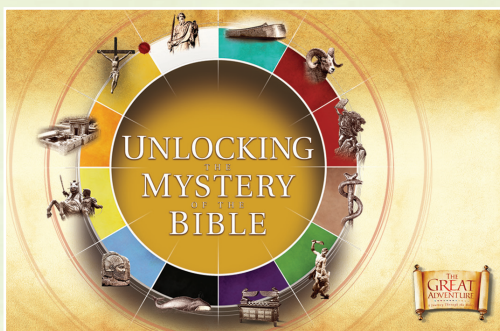
Both programs utilize the same Bible Chart: a simple, color-coded timeline of Bible history. It divides the entire timeline into 12 color-coded periods and then focuses on 14 books that tell the story in chronological order.

Key people and events that advance the story are highlighted so that you aren't overwhelmed with too much at once.

Look for the details on when and where, but decide this is the year you will begin.

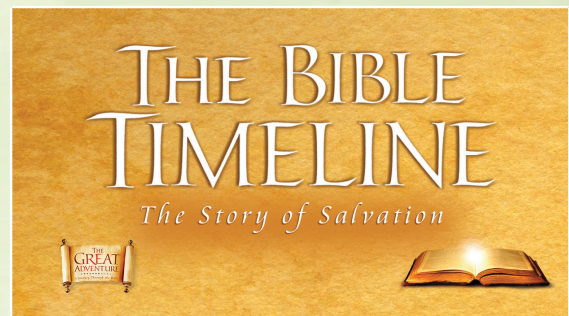
If not now – when?

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible is an 8-week quick overview that provides the easiest way to understand the Bible. It makes the complex simple. It helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture so that you can get the “big picture” of the Bible and understand what it is all about; *it's like flying over the story at 30,000 feet.*

The Bible Timeline



The Bible Timeline is a fascinating 24-session study that takes you on a journey through the entire Bible. You will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. You will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith; *it's like driving through the Holy Land in a Land Rover.*

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

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Upcoming Special Programs at St. John and on WGCU-TV



On Thursday December 15, join a special Advent video-pilgrimage to Mount Athos and an introduction to the prayer the monks pray unceasingly, *The Jesus Prayer*.

Our Church highly venerates the Heart of Jesus and the Prayer of the Heart (*Hesychasm*). Advent allows us this opportunity to both focus on Jesus, and Pray this transformative prayer of the heart, *The Jesus Prayer*.

View a CBS **60 Minutes** segment that visits this remote peninsula in northern Greece that millions believe to be the most sacred spot on Earth. It's called Mount Athos and prayers have been offered there every day, with no interruption, for more than a thousand years.

It was set aside by ancient emperors to be the spiritual capital of Orthodox Christianity and has probably changed less over the centuries than any other inhabited place on the planet. The monks come to Mount Athos from all over and do everything they can to keep what they call "the world" far away.

Still today, the Mount Athos monks perpetually pray the earliest known prayer of the Desert Fathers. You will learn the three dimensions of the Jesus Prayer according to St. Augustine, and be able to read what the Catechism of the Catholic Church reveals about this powerful mystical prayer.

This special program will be on Thursday, December 15 from **5:00 - 6:30 p.m.** in the Claussen Family Center, Seminar Room. (Note this special happy hour time).

image: *Mountain Athos/Photographer: Witold Rawicz (PL)/CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=211278>*

View Bishop Robert Barron's Catholicism: The Pivotal Players on WTTW-TV on Sunday, December 18

If you were not one of the dozens of adults that viewed and discussed Bishop Robert Barron's new series that was presented at St. John in October and November, you will have another opportunity to view two of the most popular episodes, in the comfort of your home.

Tune in to see why **Michelangelo**, the artist, and **St. Francis of Assisi**, the reformer are pivotal players in our Church.

At 3:00 p.m. on WGCU HD, TV 30.1, Cable 3 / 440 - Michelangelo

Travel with Bishop Robert Barron as he studies some of the greatest works of art in the world. From the magnificent David in Florence to the unparalleled paintings in the Sistine Chapel to the haunting Pieta in Rome, Michelangelo's legacy reveals the creative potential of the human spirit and shows that beauty is a route of access to the transcendent.

At 4:00 p.m. on WGCU HD, TV 30.1, Cable 3 / 440 - St. Francis of Assisi

Journey from the lovely streets and basilicas of Assisi and Gubbio to the gorgeous, remote monasteries of La Verna and Eremo delle Carceri with Bishop Barron as he explores the extraordinary life of St. Francis of Assisi. Bishop Barron explains how a life of true authenticity and goodness can shake the foundations of the world by examining the little friar from Umbria who became one of the most important and influential figures of the Middle Ages.

This Week's Complete Schedule

Tuesday, December 6

CATHOLICISM, *Prayer and the Life of the Spirit* ~ 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Space (Office 13)

RCIA Inquiry ~ 7:00 p.m. in the Seminar Room

Wednesday, December 7

Parents' Happy Hour ~ 5:45 p.m. in the Seminar Room

Thursday, December 8 ~ Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Christian Meditation – 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Seminar Room

Sunday, December 11

Parents' Coffee ~ 9:30 a.m. in the Ballroom? (check schedule on the doors to confirm the room!)

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

Laswick Family Makes Pilgrimage to Holy Door of Mercy in Rome

The Jubilee Year of Mercy, which began December 8, 2015 (the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception), and ended on November 20, 2016 (the Solemnity of Christ the King), was a year called by Pope Francis to spread the message of mercy throughout the world. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis encouraged everyone to make a pilgrimage to a diocesan cathedral or any other designated church where there is a Holy Door of Mercy, thus obtaining a plenary indulgence.

Zachary Laswick, youth group member and a sophomore at St. John Neumann Catholic High School, and his family made the journey to Rome specifically to go through the Holy Doors.

“In our family there were only three of us, but the volunteers were kind enough to have us join a much larger group of Italian families who were very gracious to have us as part of this brief

journey,” said Ruthann Laswick, Zachary’s mother. “There was another young man in the Italian family (also 15 years old) who started with the cross and was kind enough to invite Zachary to share the experience. We went on our pilgrimage on November 18, just two days before the doors closed.”

Zachary said he was humbled by the experience.

“I was humbled knowing that this is an opportunity that only happens either every 50 years or at the will of the Pope. But, I was also very proud to walk through the crowds in St. Peter’s Square representing my faith,” Zachary said.



Zachary Laswick, youth group member and a sophomore at St. John Neumann Catholic High School, leads a short pilgrimage to the Holy Doors in Rome on November 18.

2016 Christmas Choral Concert Celebrate the Spirit of the Season

Hear, sing, and reflect on the meaning of Advent and Christmas.

Presented by members of the Adult and Children’s Choirs of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Featuring “Because of Bethlehem” – an exciting Christmas Cantata by Keith Ferguson and Bruce Greer

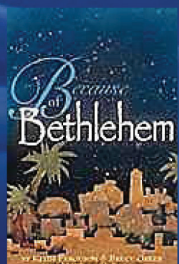
Also: Do You Hear What I Hear, Air for Advent (Bach/Fettke), Every Valley (J.N. Beck), Christmas Carol Sing-a-long, and other musical treasures and surprises.

Presented in the St John Church Sanctuary

Cost: Can of food or dry good.

**Friday
December 9th, 2016
at 7pm**

*In the flurry of holiday activities, may the wonder of Christmas be yours.
In the noise of hectic days, may the peace of Christ be with you.
In the darkest night of the year, may the light of Christ shine through!*



St. John the Evangelist Men's Club and Ladies Auxiliary November Sock Hop Featured Veterans Day Theme



Friday,
November
11,
2016

The next
Sock
Hop is
February
24, 2017

*photos by
Men's Club*



Now is the time to mark your
calendars for

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

*Billy Dean and Dawn
will entertain us again!*

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

More details will follow.

Bishop Verot High School's "Raise the Roof" Car Raffle

Win the Ford of your choice in the "Raise the Roof" Car Raffle! After years of patching, the Bishop John J. Nevins Gymnasium now requires a complete roof replacement. Your participation in this fundraiser will help Verot raise our goal of \$200,000, the amount of the new roof.

The "Raise the Roof" Car Raffle winner will have their choice of one of five new Fords or a \$20,000 cash prize. Tickets may be purchased at BVHS. Tickets are \$100 each with the winning ticket being drawn on Monday, December 12 during our Christmas prayer service and streamed live on Facebook. (For complete list of rules, please visit www.bvhs.org)

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact BVHS Development Director Ms. Gina Lombardo at 239.274-6730. Thank you so much for your support; we can't "Raise the Roof" without you!



Celebrating Our
DIAMOND
Anniversary!

SHINE YOUR LIGHT LIKE A **DIAMOND**

Saint Ann Catholic School

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

You are invited!

Pre-K3 - 8 Open House - Sunday, January 29 - Noon - 2:00pm

(239) 262-4110 ~ www.stann.net ~ [facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool](https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool)

Annual Cruise to the Caribbean

January 20- January 30, 2017

Ports:

Fort Lauderdale
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas
Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis
Bridgetown, Barbados
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Parish Contact: David Quist

239.594.2071 or dquist@comcast.net

For additional information
and booking contact:

April Williams at
800.940.2394

or

awilliams@cruiseandtravelexperts.com

"Keep Christ in Christmas"

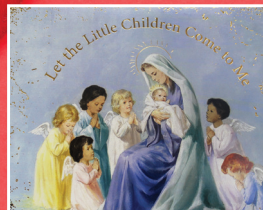
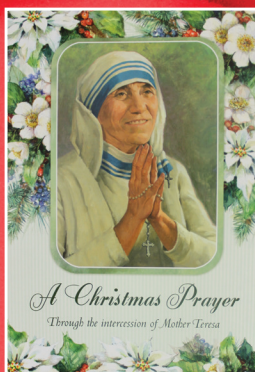
Help to "Keep Christ in Christmas" by sending religious
Christmas cards.

The Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring an evangelization
program designed to emphasize the real meaning of Christmas
through the sale of Christmas cards. There will be a large

assortment

of cards available

after each Mass in front of the church.



Buy early to
get the best
selection.