


January 1, 2017
Mary, the Holy Mother of God



the
EVANGELIST
 SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

2016: The Year of Growth and Renewal

see pages 6 & 7

Passion and Purpose for Marriage Retreat at St. John Saturday, January 28

see page 13

Safe Environment Training Classes Start This Month

see page 17

Big Band Dance Season Kicks Off Tuesday, January 10

see page 20

St. John Welcomes 24 Newly Baptized

Ariana Sofia Wolfe	October 9
Grace Nicole Sorhegui	October 16
Emilia Lynn Knight	October 16
Andrew Michael Woods, Jr.	October 22
Lucia Rose Rodriguez	October 23
Audriana Marie Diedrich	October 29
Noah Mathew Marshall	November 6
Macklin Reed Marshall	November 6
Laci Ryan Marshall	November 6
Savanna Rose Amato	November 12
Gabriella Rose Giles	November 12
Samuel Cooper Shore	November 20
Colton Matthew Seijas	November 20
Parker Houde	December 3
Jason Metellus	December 4
Mae Michelle Flanagan	December 4
Rocco Vitale	December 10
Anna Jophiel Hemrick	December 10
Grace Theresa Hemrick	December 10
Helena Price	December 17
Braden Bickett	December 17
Brek Bocwinski	December 18
Joseph Kidd	December 18
Matias Santiago Brao	December 18



Savanna Rose Amato



Samuel Cooper Shore



Laci Ryan Marshall

see more photos on page 5



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 31, 2016 Saturday

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

Vigil Masses for Sunday

3:00 PM SI Frank & Mary Lou Kreber Molly Scott

5:00 PM + Galle & McAveney Families Mr. & Mrs. Galle

Wine and Host in memory of Dr. Gregory G. Young - req. by the Young Family

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

7:00 AM + Nancy Meleo Jean Meleo

9:00 AM + Fr. Al McPartland Dennis & Fran Powers

11:15 AM For Our Parishioners

1:15 PM + Harold Courtney Jean Meleo

5:00 PM + Judith & Thomas Growe The Stephen Family

January 2, 2017 Monday

8:00 AM + Burt Sherman Dorothy Hotz

9:00 AM SI Frank & Mary Lou Kreber Chris Higgins

January 3, 2017 Tuesday

8:00 AM + Ramy Garrido Elida Gil

9:00 AM + Bonnie Karkut Joanne & Fritz

January 4, 2017 Wednesday

8:00 AM + Rocco Anthony Tondalo Elsa McAvoy

9:00 AM + Richard Pratt Hank & Joan Maier

6:30 PM + Tommy Flick Barbara Dempsey

January 5, 2017 Thursday

8:00 AM + Sara Hill Iris Horey

9:00 AM + Judy Gallo Mr. & Mrs. Richard Powers

January 6, 2017 Friday

8:00 AM + Gertrude Trapp Loretta & Marty Sullivan

9:00 AM SI Marjorie McOsker Ellen & Chuck Stokinger

January 7, 2017 Saturday

8:00 AM + Mary Powers Bruce & Arlene Ryan

Vigil Masses for Sunday

3:00 PM + Patricia Peter Pamela Stracka

5:00 PM SI Oswald Drica Minieris Lisa Ditri

January 8, 2017 Sunday

7:00 AM + Kenneth Magnani Bill & Maureen Elek

9:00 AM + Elva Romanow Hank and Joan Maier

11:15 AM For Our Parishioners

1:15 PM + Bruce Lurvey Rev. John J. Ludden

5:00 PM + Harold Courtney Marie Elaina Mullin

Wine and Host for the Intention of Richard & Lorraine Leclere ~ req. by Lorraine Leclere

**SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, December 31, 2016

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

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God; The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; World Day of Prayer for Peace; *New Year's Day* Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Monday, January 2, 2017

Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

The Most Holy Name of Jesus 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday, January 5, 2017

St. John Neumann 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday, January 6, 2017

St. André Bessette; First Friday 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

Saturday, January 7, 2017

St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday; Julian Calendar Christmas 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11

Saturday, Vigil Mass for Sunday

Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Sunday, January 8, 2017

The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

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...

Campaign Corner

January 1, 2017

“Every expression of true beauty can be acknowledged as a path leading to an encounter with the Lord Jesus.”

— Pope Francis



A Capital Campaign for
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Arts Fair to Showcase Upcoming Programs for Youth and Adults

The Catholic Church has always been the largest patron of the arts in the world. From the Sistine Chapel to our own beautiful choir, to our summer camp dance classes, music and the arts are at the heart of our faithful engagement in the world. The above quotation from Pope Francis in *The Joy of the Gospel* clearly shows that focus on developing the arts is a path to faith and love.

We are excited to announce the range of artistic activities and events for our Parish Family and the community in 2017! We want to ensure all ages get a chance to appreciate the fine arts, as well as participate in any that they would like. These cost-effective, enjoyable, and encouraging programs will be available to youth and adults alike, with tailored activities for the age groups and skill levels. Some of them are completely unique in the area. In order to showcase these opportunities, we will be having our Arts Fair on Sunday, January 22, immediately following the 11:15 a.m. Mass and open for the entire afternoon. There will be mini classes and introductions for the following programs:

- Group Voice
- Social Dancing
- Group and Individual Piano
- Theater Introduction and Stage Presence
- Group and Individual Guitar
- Group Painting
- Group Wind Instruments
- Vatican Art Appreciation
- And so much more!



Please join us for an exciting afternoon to find your inner artist! Refreshments will be provided throughout the afternoon as you go from class to class. For more information, please contact our Artistic Director, Jennine Fuentes, at Jennine@sjecc.com.

As we **Build Our Future, Serve Our Past**, we still need all the prayers and support of our Parish Family to reach our Pinnacle Goals. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Lichwalla, the Campaign Coordinator at 239.495.2001 or email: campaign@sjecc.com.

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

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

PARISH CLERGY



Fr. John J. Ludden, Pastor

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

Altar Servers:

Jean-Paul Boucher jp@sjecc.com

Arts & Liturgical Environment:

Kay and Andy Sanfelippo 949.7122

Eucharistic Ministry

Maureen Reed EMMinistry@sjecc.com

Homebound

Call the Office 566.8740

Hospital

Mary Ellen Metro maryellen@sjecc.com

Lectors Ministry

lectors@sjecc.com

Greeters & Ushers:

Bill Fuller wfuller1@comcast.net
239.280.8870

SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH*

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

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

Anointing of the Sick/Funeral

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

All Administrative Staff

239.566.8740

General Manager

Jean-Paul Boucher: *Ext. 3910*

Fax: 239.566.9117

jp@sjecc.com

Assistant to the Pastor

Tricia Schwarz

Parish Secretary

Deborah Marsh

Front Office Manager

Kathy Mooney

Pastoral Musician and Liturgist

Gary Prettyman

Artistic Director

Jennine Fuentes

Sacristan & Martha's Guild

Lan Tran

Director of Family Mission

Jean-Paul Boucher

Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor

Kathy Sims

CYO Social and Spiritual

Coordinator

Kyle VanDuser

Memorial Garden

Jean-Paul Boucher

Bookkeeper

Karen Beebe

Religious Boutique

Elaine deLaurentis, *Ext. 3921*

Maintenance

566.8740

Education Staff

Director of Religious Education

Natalie Campbell: *Ext. 3904 and 3909*

Coordinator, Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Jack Kindsvater: *Ext. 3918*

email staff members at:

info@sjecc.com

FOR OUR RECORDS

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

Thank you!

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

www.sjecc.com

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

625 111th Avenue North, Naples, FL 34108

Phone: 239.566.8740 • Fax: 239.566.9117

www.sjecc.com

Administrative Office Hours are:

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

(until all are heard)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

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

Wednesday Evening: 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Masses:

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

Sunday Masses:

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

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

5:00 p.m. Contemporary Mass

Choirs:

Adult Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

Residents and seasonals welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Children's Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

1-5. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Contemporary Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

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

especially welcome. *Gary Prettyman: 566.8740*

Hospitality. Volunteers serve light refreshments for

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

a.m. Sunday Masses for sharing, communicating

and extending fellowship. If interested in helping

contact *Elida Gil: 239.592.7973* or *Darlene*

Follese: 495.9741

Divine Gift Boutique (located across from the

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

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

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

interested in volunteering, contact *Elaine: 566.8740*.

PARISH REGISTRATION

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

Mass Intentions. We are now accepting 2017 intentions.

Altar Flowers and/or Host & Wine. We have 2017 wine and host and flowers availability. Stop by the parish office to offer the wine and host and/or the altar flowers in memory or in honor of your loved ones.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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

PARISH INFORMATION... OPERATIONAL

SAINT JOHN the EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH • WWW.SJECC.COM • INFO@SJECC.COM

St. John Welcomes 24 Newly Baptized

continued
from page 1



Andrew Michael Woods, Jr.



Ariana Sofia Wolfe



Colton Matthew Seijas



Lucia Rose Rodriguez



Samuel Cooper Shore



Gabriella Rose Giles and Savanna Rose Amato



Macklin, Noah and Laci Marshall



Parker Houde

2016: The Year of Growth and Renewal

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



What a year!

Sometimes, even in the midst of a rush of activities that make you feel like you cannot even catch a breath, it is important to take a step back. 2016 was such a major year for Saint John the Evangelist, with major new efforts kicking off, renovations of our current environment, and renewal of the entire focus of the church, we should all take that moment. It is due to all of you, our Parish Family, and all your dedication, devotion, and stewardship, that we have come so far, so fast, and have such a bright future ahead of us. I thank God every single day that He has given me this opportunity to serve you and be a part of renewing the Catholic Church in Naples for all ages and all people.

We are focused on our mission: To Know, To Love, and To Serve God, in His Church and Our Community. Here are just a few of those amazing events, programs, and activities from this past year that have made such a positive impact:

#ToKnow

- **Get on the Bus! First Catholic Afterschool Program in Naples Begins** – If you have not gotten a chance to see our new buses, you are in for a treat! We are blessed to have our Parish Family members, Hilary and Ryan Shore, deploying the first afterschool program at a Catholic Church in Naples, Full STEAM Ahead! STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Arts, and Music, and we are now busing dozens of children from five different elementary schools to St. John on a daily basis. We give them a safe, enlivening environment and the best feedback we have gotten is from the parents who say their kids do not want to leave when they pick them up at 6:30 p.m.



- **Adults Get Education Too** – Have you ever been asked a religious question by your child, or grandchild, and you were not quite ready to answer it? I know I have been. We have the largest youth Faith Formation program at St. John in nearly a decade, with over 450 children attending weekly. There needs to be the same level of support for the rest of the parish. We have started Happy Hours and Coffee Talks for the adults of our Parish Family at the same time as the youth Faith Formation, allowing us all to get some understanding of our faith and ask our own questions. Please join us on Sunday mornings and



Wednesday evenings so you can maybe answer that question the next time it comes your way.

- **Vacation Bible School** – What a huge moment to engage the children of not only our Parish Family, but the larger community. We had youth from all denominations, and from around the area join us for our largest Vacation Bible School ever. The week was special and engaged the senses and faith of over 420 children, from preschool through high school. While we are sad that we will be taking a break this coming summer from VBS, with the new Life Center, we will be coming back in 2018 even bigger and better!
- **Life Center Development** – How could I forget that we have successfully completed the development of our new Life Center? This building, nestled in the back of our campus, will be the heart of activities for our Parish Family. All ages will have programs and activities to take care of their bodies, minds, spirits, and souls, all at once.
- **Renovations Begin** – Along with the new building, we are renovating our entire campus. From new Confessionals in the church to creating a real Library, we are renewing all the buildings and campus. We have re-engineered the front parking lot to include 40 new spaces as well as developed an interior design to enliven all the activities and events that take place here. The flat roof of the Parish Activity Center (the new name for the PLC) has been completed and the renovation of the old “Library” (name to be determined based on your feedback) is complete. Lots more to come!



#ToLove

- **CYO** – There are experienced members of our community who recall playing sports at their Catholic Youth Organization and even meeting their spouses 40 years ago at a CYO Dance. Well, we have brought CYO back to the area after over 25 years, with sports, social, and artistic programs for the youth. We already had a successful season of soccer, with teams at every age group, and

Parish Mission & Life continues on page 7

Parish Mission & Life continued from page 6

one of our players even won the Sportsmanship Award for the entire league. These programs will connect their lives with their faith, and show them that church is not just a Sunday activity, it is every moment of their being. This will create life-long Catholics and wonderful human beings

- **Catholic Adult Organization** – The kids do not get all the fun! The CAO concept kicked off this year, the first of its kind as far as we can find. The same foci of wellness, social, and artistic programs can impact adults just as much as children. We started our Movie Night for Adults this year, with *The Mission*, and we have some very powerful movies coming up. Get ready for an entirely new set of opportunities, including social dance classes, bingo, and Paint and Wine coming in 2017!

- **NET Missionaries** – In order get integrated with the youth of the area, it is not good enough to say “we have stuff here, come on over”. We have to go out



to where they are. Meet them in the middle of their lives. Support and encourage them. We are so blessed to have the first NET Missionaries, a group of Catholic young adults who have been trained to engage high schoolers and accompany them in their life’s journey. We will need more help with our Missionaries in the coming years, as they continue their efforts, including housing them, but they are already making an impact on our Parish Family.

#ToServe

- **CRS Helping Hands Meal Packing Event** – Could you believe that in less



than one hour, we were able to make and pack over 20,000 meals, right in our Ballroom? We had over 325 volunteers from around the area all descend on our campus, all for the purpose of feeding refugees and those in need around the world. Through Catholic Relief Services, the thousands of meals we made were sent to Burkina Faso, Africa.

- **Thanksgiving in the Park** – St. John took the reins of Thanksgiving in the Park this year, a 35 year-old effort to

provide a Thanksgiving meal to those in need in Immokalee. With a week of gathering food, pulling turkeys, prepping, serving, and finally cleaning up, we had over 150 volunteers here at St. John and another 80 in Immokalee. It was an amazing illustration of our faith in action. This year, we were able to feed over 1,900 people and everyone left with a smile on their face and full stomach.



- **Renovating Services for Immokalee** – Through the work of some amazing members of our Parish Family, our church was able to renovate both the Casa Maria Soup Kitchen and Guadalupe Social Services Food Pantry and Immigration



Support offices. We rebuilt the pantry to include a brand new walk-in freezer and fridge to store meat and other perishable items. We redesigned the kitchen and put in a new dishwashing system for sanitation. We

bought new office furniture to make the environment more welcoming for those asking for assistance. We serve in the kitchen every single month. There is so much we do for Immokalee, and most of it is quietly done by us with no fanfare, just simply helping in any way we can.

- **Simple Gesture Grows to Power Packs** – Our persistent food pantry service, which began in 2015, was given a new mission. There are so many children in Naples who do not get food at home. They are fed at school through the free and reduced lunch program. However, what happens to those kids on the weekend when they have no school? Now, St. John provides food for the Power Pack Program, where individual servings are given for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, for both Saturday and Sunday. This gives the child enough to eat so they can study and focus on their lives, rather than the hunger in their stomachs. This December, we had so much food, we were able to fill three separate food pantries at once. That is a blessing to this entire community, all due to you.

I could go on and on about 2016 and the renewal of our church. Every member of our Parish Family should be proud to be here, actively showcasing our faith in our actions to each other, the local community, and the entire world. And, what we have in store for 2017 will transform our campus, our lives, and Naples for decades to come. I hope you are as excited and enlivened as I am for all of it, and I look forward to continuing on this journey together with you!

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. *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 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from October to May. Meets in the Youth Room of the Claussen Family Center. New members welcome. Accepts fabric, notions, monetary donations. Needs fleece fabric. *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

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

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 Scrudato
U.S. Coast Guard

MidShipman Micaela Scrudato
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 DeVil: 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:

Rose D. Campo, Vito Iovino, Donald Koman, Ronald E. O'Neill and George J. Wino
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

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
David Casola
Susan Chiappini
Tiffany Chill
Eric Christensen
Joan Ciccarella
Dick Clark
Sam and Frank Comeriato
Fr. Gerard Critch
Forest Crowley
Kathryn Gallagan-Culp
Anthony D'Antuono
Mark Dabronzo
Donald Dempski
Florence Demski
Sandra Demski
Bernadette Dennis
DF
Carey Eliason
Pat Erhardt
Coletta Farina
John Farrell
John Farrow,
Wendy Bui Fewell
Follese/Fiedler Family
Donna Flynn
Anna Focht
Fran
Galloway Family
Edward Gaynor
Connor Gelinias
Roberta George

Emma Gilardi
Carlos D. Gomez
George Gonser Jr
Joe Goss
Keri Grasso
Harry Grevey
Glenn Griffin
Margi Hearson
Gerard Heyen
Kim Hocker
Donald Howe
JM
JRM
NC
Neil King
Krista Leigh Kozowyk
Jim Krauser & Family
John Kuryea
Lindsay Lavery
Estelle LeChelavier
Rene Lacoste
Mary Lou Leibig
Delk Lindaman
Logan
Jack Lucarelli
Jean Lydon
Margie Lynch
Richard Lyncheski
Maria and Family
Ron Marlow
Ross Mart
Marisa Mazza
Kenneth J. McAvoy
Kevin McDonagh
Carolyn McDonald
Paul McIntyre
Carolyn McNichols
James Meleo
Jean Meleo
Lorrie Morrison
Maxine Newman
Marylee Olsen
Emma O'Rourke
Maryla Panagos
Charles Parente Family
Michael Paul
Babe Pelli
Elizabeth Perez

Anne Perrino
Petric Family
Ann Petrillo
Pileggi Family
Georgia Pinto
Irene Pires
Thad Pluc
Bill Porter
Norjean Ray
John Reardon
Aurielia Rein
Cindy Renner
Peter Renner
Allan Ring
RLC
Susie Romanovich
Jean Ruel
Lloyd Sample
Lisa Sanfelippo
Shelia Scaduto
Peter Scariati
Mary Schell
Eli Schneider
Breana Short
Thomas Sissman
John Smith
Solazzo Family
JoAnne Spehn
Anthony Spinella
Nancy Stewart
Rita Taranto
William J. Teplica
Domonic Terrogrossa
Gary Tester
John Thyen
Logan Uzzi
Lawrence Varone
Mike Walsman
McKenna Weinst
Vera Weinstein
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@sjecc.com
When submitting a name for Prayer List, please make sure you have that individual's permission.

JANUARY 1, 2017 ~ MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

2016 Christmas Choral Concert



**Celebrating
the Spirit
of the Season**

photos by Bill Pancake

**Hymns for the The Octave Day of Christmas
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God,
December 31, 2016 & January 1, 2017**

Entrance Hymn:	79	Joy to the World
Preparation Hymn:	690	Mary's Song
Communion Hymn:	88	Silent Night
Closing Hymn:	525	Let There Be Peace

**5 PM Mass Music Worship Aid - Sunday, January 1, 2017
Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

Opening Song	79	Joy to the World
Presentation Song	690	Mary's Song
Communion Song	88	Silent Night
Closing Song	525	Let There Be Peace

Attention ALL musicians!

We have wonderful opportunities for singers and instrumentalists to join our dynamic music ministry! In the following weekends, I will highlight one of our exciting music ministries! But, please do not wait for the bulletin invitation to join one of our fine choirs! This IS your very warm and official invitation to join us NOW! Whether already well established or conceptual, our ministries are always in development and growth. St. John has been very blessed to have had a history of terrific music. With your participation, we can ensure that this legacy will continue and thrive!

Sincerely in His service, Gary Prettyman (gary@sjecc.com)

**“The music ministries extends our sincerest wishes and prayers
for a blessed, healthy, and prosperous New Year!”**

FIERCE

All girls 6-12th Grade are welcome to come!

Come watch **Frozen**
and talk about friendships!

Friday, January 20, 2017, 6:00 to 9:30 p.m.
in the Claussen Family Center.

Wear your favorite fuzzy socks!!!

“Without LOVE, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing.”
-St. Therese of Lisieux

@netteam12

Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Dear Parishioners,

As we begin this New Year, Providence House wishes to say thank you. Words cannot express how much your attendance at our events and donations throughout the year mean to us. Your continued support allows us to begin our twelfth year! The women, children, board members, and staff wish to extend a warm thank you for your generosity and wish each of you a New Year of good health, joy, and peace.

With deep gratitude,

Jean Takacs
Executive Director

www.providencehousenaples.org



Jamaica Outreach Program

Needs Help

Come Learn More About the Jamaica Outreach Program

As you may well know, the Jamaica Outreach Program (JOP) was organized in 1997 by parishioners from Saint John the Evangelist parish with a vision of helping the poor and the needy in and around the St. Pius X parish in Kingston, Jamaica. At first, our efforts were dedicated to collecting and sending food and clothing to the poor, however, over the years we have expanded our efforts island wide to include educational, medical, dental, and optical services to Jamaicans in need of that kind of help.

As we approach our 20th year in operation, we find ourselves in urgent need of volunteers willing to take on leadership roles in our outreach endeavors. Our present board of directors needs to add new volunteer members in those roles to ensure that our work will continue into the 21st century. *We need leaders from all walks of life and businesses who have the time and talent to guide and lead us in our ongoing outreach to a worthy*

population in Jamaica.

*Empty Nesters • Recent Retirees
• Anyone wanting to be of service...*

All are welcome in our effort to continue providing vital support to those who have the very least. If you feel that you can play a role in our organization, we invite you to an **information gathering January 14 - 15** to learn more about JOP. The gatherings will be held at the following times with refreshments and a question and answer session to follow.

Saturday, January 14 at 4:15 p.m. in the new library **OR**

Sunday, January 15 at 10:15 a.m. in the kitchen side of the ballroom.

If you have any questions please call Martha Mador, Volunteer Coordinator, at 860.449.2105.



For the LOVE of the Poor

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

Ending: February 28, 2017

Thank you for helping us stock the food pantries.

NO FOOD PLEASE! WE ARE REQUESTING CHECKS ONLY.

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



Faith and Wine

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

featuring

Father Bob Kantor & Rabbi Adam Miller

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

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

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

"On Heaven and Earth"



Event open to men!

Menu

Cheese Display:

Vegetable Crudite

Fresh Fruit Display

Buffet:

Chicken Marsala • Penne Pesto Pasta

Whipped Bliss Potatoes

Cranberry Herb Thyme Green Beans

Greek Salad • Bread Assortment

Dessert: Cheesecake Bites

Cost: \$25 prepay • NO WALK-INS!

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

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

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

Go to www.FaithandWine.com to learn more!

Passion and Purpose for Marriage

Retreat at St. John Saturday, January 28

St. John the Evangelist is hosting a Passion and Purpose for Marriage Retreat and invites couples for a great evening of listening, learning, scripture and prayer, all dedicated towards learning how to live and stay in love as a couple with your faith.

The retreat will be Saturday, January 28, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. This is a unique opportunity to learn and grow as a person of faith who strives to love in all their relationships. Dr. Allen Hunt will be the speaker.

"Dr. Hunt was amazing. Such a wonderful program. I laughed and I cried and we learned so much. Some reaffirmation of how we have lived our lives together and some excellent suggestions to be a better person and partner with Gods help," said Yolanda and Bud Major, Cary, NC, past attendees.

Snacks will be provided at two breaks, and as a bonus, you will receive some wonderful gifts to take home. Tickets will be on sale after Masses January 14 15 or go to www.dynamiccatholic.com/naples.

Annul Catholic Charities

Christmas Appeal Is Underway

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

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

The Octave Day of Christmas
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God: Year A

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

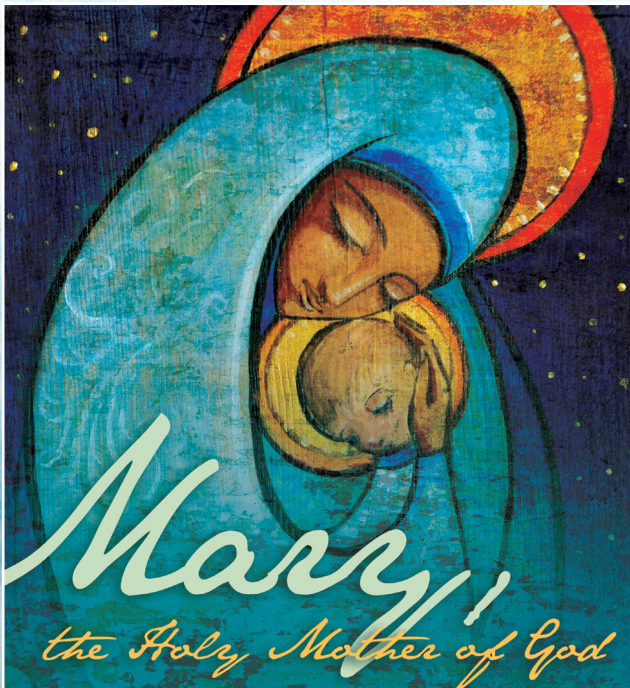
Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

The Word &
Life

A Human Story Filled With Divine Consequences

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Much attention is given to Mary at this sacred time of year because she plays a vital role in the history of redemption and salvation. When we read between the lines of the gospel one could imagine how Mary witnessed the redemptive power that Jesus brought to broken situations. The way Jesus forgives the sinner, heals the sick, raises the dead, calms the possessed, and loves the poor, are all ways in which God redeems the world. Jesus' name means, "The one who saves". Mary is the one who gives life to the Savior of the world. Mother Church, therefore, asks us today to ponder the divine role that Mary plays.



The Church has long contemplated the significance of Mary's life. If we examine the Scriptures, we find very few facts about Mary's life. The gospels talk about her betrothal to Joseph and record the Annunciation, Visitation to Elizabeth. We learn of Mary's Announcement to Joseph and his reaction to it, and then his acceptance of Mary. We journey to Bethlehem, learn of the birth of Jesus, the Circumcision of the Lord, the Presentation of Jesus in the temple, the visit of the Magi, and the exile into Egypt. There is a reference to the Holy Family of Nazareth, but then the Scriptures focus on Jesus' life. Later, we learn of the finding of Jesus in the Temple, the miracle at Cana, and the mention of Mary and Jesus' relatives throughout Jesus' ministry. At the foot of the cross Mary is entrusted with divine motherhood.

The last notable mention of Mary is Acts 1:14ff (Pentecost) and Revelation 12:1-6 (Mother clothed with the Son, over her head twelve stars). These events do not give us many details, but most certainly furnish us with the divine reality in which Mary played a part. The early Church Fathers, St. Ignatius, St. Irenaeus and Tertullian, wrote about Mary's life, constantly referring to her as "Mother of God". However, it was not until the Council

in Ephesus in 431 AD that the leaders in the Christian Church solidified Mary's title as "Mother of God."

Mary's life was filled with so many divine consequences when we reflect deeply upon it. Her personal example shows us how we are to respond to the challenges in life. Mary knew rejection. She was to be first rejected by Joseph initially, but then was accepted because of the angel appearing to him in a dream. Mary was to present herself as a pregnant unwed (although betrothed) mother. She experienced homelessness when she gave birth to her Son. Mary fled to Egypt as a political refugee and became a stranger in a foreign land. She returned to Nazareth and witnesses Jesus mature and grow. She loses Jesus in the temple and experiences sheer panic as a mother. Jesus surprises her as he starts to reveal the Father's plan in himself. Mary witnesses the rejection of Jesus at the hands of her neighbors as he tells them that he is the fulfillment of the Prophet Isaiah. Our Lady offers accompaniment to Jesus as he sets out on his public ministry. She sees hostility in the leaders of her faith and witnesses with her own two eyes the torture and mocking of her Son. She stands at the foot of the cross as a mother with a broken heart wondering why her Son should receive a capital punishment and be put to death. Mary holds the lifeless body of her only Son when they take him down from the cross and then does what every mother must dread, that is, to place a child into a grave. However, she returns to the upper room of fears to wait patiently with the very friends who deserted Jesus, to wait for the promise. She sees her Son resurrected and alive and receives the breath of the Holy Spirit of God. She takes John and the Church into her heart and life and she goes forward with her life. Mary's life shows us that we, the Body of Christ, the Church, must also accompany people in their poverty and homelessness, their rejection and their pain, the political refugee and the migrant, the blind and the lame.

In order to understand Mary, we have to examine her life. Mary pondered the event of Jesus in her heart to reach her spiritual attainment. Similarly, we are called to reflect on these sacred realities to see how they fit into our lives. Mary is the Mother of Jesus, who is God. If we follow this logic that means that she is the Mother of God. Mary's divine Motherhood comes from the very vocation that God had chosen for her. We are blessed by this same divine Motherhood. On the cross, Jesus told his mother to behold John as her son, and asked John to behold Mary as his mother. Jesus bestowed spiritual adoption on the whole world the day he established the new covenant in his blood. Mary continues to be that spiritual figurehead, and Mother as the Church tries to make sense of the Christ event in modern times.

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



Prayer

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Lead us to your Son. Heavenly Father, let our minds and hearts reflect on the events of Jesus, just as Mary reflected on them. May we dare to give our lives to you, as Mary did, so to enter into your heavenly kingdom. Amen

Reflection Questions

1. What attributes would you say makes a perfect mother?
2. Why is motherhood a gift?
3. Why do you think God chose Mary to be the Mother of His Son?
4. Define grace?
5. How was God's grace at work in Mary's life?
6. How is God's grace at work in your life?
7. What signs of heroism was present in Mary's example?
8. Name the ways in which you are heroic in living your faith?
9. How concretely can we offer support to people who now find themselves in the same situation as the Holy Family?

Wisdom of the Fathers

"...The Virgin Mary teaches us what it means to live in the Holy Spirit and what it means to welcome the newness of God in our life. She conceived Jesus by the work of the Spirit, and every Christian, each one of us, is called to welcome the Word of God, to welcome Jesus in ourselves and then bring him to everyone. Mary invokes the Spirit with the Apostles in the upper room: every time that we come together in prayer, we are supported by the spiritual presence of the Mother of Jesus, to receive the gift of the Spirit and to have the ability to bear witness to the risen Jesus..."

— Pope Francis, April 28, 2013

Faith Formation

2016-2017 School Year

*As We begin the New Year in Faith Formation,
We Look Forward to Celebrating the Sacraments*



First Reconciliation Ceremony

Our First Reconciliation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

Parents, please also attend the First Reconciliation Rehearsal on Thursday, January 12 at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

Preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation: How Can I Help?

As 74 of our children enrolled in Faith Formation continue preparing for their First Reconciliation, here are some ways that parents and caregivers can help:

- Practice the Sign of the Cross prayer with your child. They will begin their confession with the Sign of the Cross. (Use the right hand.)

In the name of the Father, And of the Son, And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

- Help your child learn an Act of Contrition. The priest will ask your child to make an act of contrition. Most of the children are learning this prayer in Faith Formation.

O my God, I am sorry for my sins,

In choosing to sin,

And failing to do good,

I have sinned against You and your Church.

I firmly intend,

With the help of your Son, To make up for my sins And to love as I should. Amen.

- Consider receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the days or weeks before your child's First Reconciliation. Share your experience with your child.

Reconciliation is offered at St. John on Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

- Set aside 30-45 minutes to do each lesson in your child's Reconciliation packet with them. Make this quality one-on-one time, if possible.
- Encourage your child through this time of preparation. Bring them to Mass wearing the necklaces they received at the Enrollment Mass. Show them by your example, that just as your faith brought them to the sacrament of Baptism, you are here with them as their first teachers to love and support them as they receive the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Confirmation

We will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on Monday, May 1 at 6:30 pm. in the Church.

Parents and Sponsors, please attend the Confirmation Rehearsal on Sunday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m.

First Communion

We will celebrate the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 13 at 11:00 a.m.

Parents, please attend the First Communion Rehearsal on Thursday, May 11 at 5:30 p.m.

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

CYO - YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS

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

ONGOING EVENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Several Safe Environment Training Sessions Have Been Scheduled at Area Parishes

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

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

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

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

Additional trainings will be added in February and March. For the complete list of regional trainings that will be held this winter and spring, please visit

<http://dioceseofvenice.org/programs/safe-environment/training-schedule/>

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

Next Marriage Encounter Weekend Is February 10-11

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

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

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING

The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the holidays on Monday, January 2.



January 2017

Weekend of January 7-8 is an opportunity to show support for the priesthood by contributing generously to the special collection for the seminarians.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Diocese of Venice is blessed with many generous and dedicated priests who have followed Christ's call to act in His person in the priesthood. The Diocese is further blessed with vocations to the priesthood, evidenced by our present number of 21 seminarians. Your support of the Annual Seminary Collection continues to be crucial as challenges increase for a proper formation environment and education of our future priests.

This special collection ensures that we continue to have good priests to serve you and your family. It supports the Church's mission of cultivating and fostering priestly vocations, and supporting the next generation of diocesan priests in their studies. Further, this collection supports our seminarians who are studying at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in nearby Boynton Beach.

Funds are needed to assist our future priests with tuition, room and board, health care, transportation, and other expenses, including inviting more men to consider the priesthood. Your gift to the Seminarian Collection helps offset these costs.

Parishes in the Diocese of Venice will conduct this annual collection for Seminary Support the weekend of January 7 and 8, 2017. Your gift provides vital financial support of the Seminary for the future of the Church in Florida.

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you my blessings in this New Year. Thank you and may God bless you and your family for the support of our seminarians.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

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

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

The video series topics are titled:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

RCIA Report

The initial Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults will be held at the 9:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday.

In this combined rite, those who have never been baptized will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. Those who have been previously baptized in another Christian community and wish to prepare for reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church will celebrate the Rite of Welcoming.

These catechumen and candidates, as they are called, have already been in a period of preparation, training, and catechesis. They have explored the Catholic faith and found answers to the question, "What do Catholics believe?"

This liturgical rite marks the beginning of the catechumenate period for them. They will express, and the St. John community will accept, their intention to respond to God's call to follow the way of Christ. As they enter the next phase they will continue to explore Gospel values and nurture and grow their faith. They will learn what Catholics do, and why. They will begin to understand what it means to be Catholic.

This period is one of nurturing and growing in faith. In some ways it is comparable to "going steady," a time to date one person exclusively and get to know them better with the intention of a long-term relationship.

This process takes place within the parish community of Saint John the Evangelist. The entire parish community is called to help these candidates by its love and prayer, and by testifying to their suitability when it is time for them to be admitted to the sacraments.

Since most of these candidates have been baptized, all will remain in the church during the entire Mass, and not be dismissed after the homily. They are present to exercise



their baptismal priesthood in the praying of the general intercessions and in the offering of the sacrifice of praise in the Eucharistic Prayer. Participating in the entire Mass also teaches what "full communion" looks like and catechizes all of us that the candidates are not simply "non-Catholics," they are brothers and sisters in Christ.

2017 Confirmation Date Set

If you are a baptized Catholic who has received your First Communion, but for whatever reason have not been confirmed,

ADULT CONFIRMATION is for YOU.

Bishop Frank Dewayne will be at Saint John the Evangelist parish on Monday, May 1 to confirm our young adults as well as "mature" adult baptized Catholics who have not been confirmed.

There will be five preparation sessions in the weeks leading up to Confirmation that will be scheduled to accommodate those interested.

For more information or to register contact Jack Kindsvater by phone or email; number and address below.



This Week's Complete Schedule

Thursday, January 5

Women of the Word begin

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible – 9:30 a.m. in Classrooms 9 and 10

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

BIG BAND DANCE

EVERYONE WELCOME!

First Dance of the Season

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

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

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Dance to the Music of the Big Band Era

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

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

**Food available at
reasonable prices.**



**Big Band
Dance
Schedule**

**Tuesday,
January 10**

**Tuesday,
January 24**

**Tuesday,
February 14**

**Tuesday,
February 28**

**Tuesday,
March 14**

**Tuesday,
March 28**

**Tuesday,
April 11**

Admission:

\$10.00 cash
only at the door
~ includes snacks

Cash Bar: Water
and Soda ~ \$1.00

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

- Wine and
Mixed Drinks
~ \$3.00

Dress: Country
Club Casual
(No shorts please.)

Singles Welcome

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

SOCK HOP

**FEBRUARY 24,
2017**

Simple Gesture Fills Three Food Pantries for Christmas!

Our Parish Family continues to showcase the best of our faith with our tremendous giving for those in need. Our box truck was filled to the top with food during our Simple Gestures weekend, December 10 and 11. Thanks to the hard-working Ladies of Charity calling to remind everyone, and our Boy Scout Troop 226, who manned the truck, helping pack the food and carry the groceries from our cars, we were able to deliver enough food to fill three separate food pantries! Saint Vincent DePaul, St. Matthews House, and the Judy Sullivan Catholic Charities Center all received food, as much as they could handle. If you are interested in participating, please stop by the church office to pick up your blue Simple Gesture bag, which includes a shopping list as well as the future dates for our pickup at church.

Thank you to all that contributed and continue to support this amazing and persistent food program!



**Season
Greetings
from the
Divine Gift Boutique!**

**All Christmas merchandise
in the Divine Gift Boutique
is now HALF PRICE.**

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

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



The Knights of Columbus at St. John the Evangelist
Proudly Presents

The Valentine's Day Dance

Thursday, February 16, 2017

With Billy Dean and Dawn

6:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Entertainment and dinner begin at 6:30 p.m.



OPEN BAR



**JACKETS
REQUIRED.**

Music
Dancing

50/50

Tickets: \$50 per person.

**On sale after all weekend Masses starting
January 7, 2017.**

Make checks payable to: The Knights of Columbus

Tickets are also on sale online at:

<https://stjohntheevangelist.weshareonline.org/2017ValentineDinnerDance>

No sales or refunds after February 12 or at the door.

Menu by Frisco's Catering

Appetizer Display: Cheese • Vegetable Crudite • Organic Fruit • Pecorino Romano Meatballs.

Salad: Mediterranean Salad with Red Wine Vinaigrette.

Entrée: Chateaubriand w/Whipped Potatoes and Asparagus.

Dessert: Flourless Chocolate Cake.

We will attempt to meet dietary needs.

LIMITED SEATING THIS YEAR.

SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES. For more information, please contact **Jim McDonald** at **947-6454**

For the Love of Children

Christmas Sneaker and Sock Drive



Thanks to the generosity of the St. John parishioners, Ladies of Charity were able to package over 500 sneakers and socks on Monday, December 19 for distribution to the needy children of Naples Park Elementary School and the children of Immokalee.

See additional photos in a future bulletin.



GIT YER DANCIN' BOOTS ON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNTRY WESTERN HOE DOWN & CHILI COOK-OFF FOR LIFE

Sponsored by St. John Council Knights of Columbus



Monday, January, 30, 2017

6:00 to 8:30 PM in the Parish Life Center

Cost: only \$8.00 Per person at the door. Includes chili servings, coffee and dessert. Pay "Saloon" available.

Proceeds for Respect Life



The St. John the Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council will add to this annual respect life fundraising event with good old Country Music. Featuring the country western sound of "Vegas." Music, Cowboys and Cowgirls line dancing, Country Music, Country Dancing, Campfire and Chili Cook-off. Guests will enjoy different chili recipes of "chili aficionados" in the Naples Area.



Florida K of C Charities, Inc / Helping Life Fund is a 501 C 3 non-profit



Celebrating Our
DIAMOND
Anniversary!

OPEN HOUSE

YOU'RE INVITED! Sunday, Jan. 29, Noon - 2:00pm

Saint Ann Catholic School

Excellence in Education of Spirit, Mind, and Body Since 1956!
(239) 262-4110 ~ www.stann.net ~ [facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool](https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool)
RSVP for a chance to earn a \$1000 tuition voucher!

*VPK
Provider*



Knights of Columbus Celebrate Season of Giving at Annual Christmas Party



(Far Left) Guests from the Foundation for the Developmentally Disabled in Naples celebrated Christmas with Knights of Columbus members and their families on Monday, December 19 at St. John.

(Left) Santa delivered gifts early for the guests and the children of Knights of Columbus members.