


December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Our Parish Family Welcomes You!

the

EVANGELIST
 SAINT JOHN *the* EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. John Welcomes 146 New Families Since June 1

St. John welcomes all new families who have registered with our parish in recent months.

From June 1 through November 30, some 146 families have registered as new members of Saint John the Evangelist. We welcome to our Parish Family the most recent registrants.

James & Mary Abkemeier
 Aguinaga Family
 Richard & Joanne Alexander
 Ariola Family
 Babon Family
 Raymond Batistoni & Audrey Kirby
 William & Kelly Beam
 Tracy Billings
 Claire Blackwell
 Blair Family
 Boyle Family
 Terrance & Maria Stella Boyle
 Frederick & Theresa Boyle
 Joyce Bradley
 Joseph & Maria Britell
 Brown Family
 Bueno Family
 Bumpous Family
 Kevin Burkwit
 Calistri Family
 Mary Lou Campbell
 Carrera Family

James & Patricia Carroll
 Chaparro & Gonzalez Family
 Nicholas & Maryangela Chickering
 Mitchell Clark Family
 Thomas Clark Family
 Colque Family
 Cono Family
 Couch Family
 Covelli Family
 Ronald Dedic & Linda Henriksen-Dedic
 Juan DeJesus & Leticia Flores
 Dery Family
 JD & Michelle DeSousa
 Gail Deviddio
 Jack & JoAnn Devlin
 Donald & Vicky Jo Dodson
 Luisa Edwards
 Elwell Family
 Engler Family
 Daman & Emily Essert
 Falco Family

Charles Fiori & Jacqueline Hopkins
 Fontana Family
 Fye Family
 Domenico & Angela Gadaleta
 Gahan Family
 Gary & Susan Gallo
 Melvin Garcia & Julie Melchiore
 Gill and Wiehl Family
 Gillen Family
 Ruben & Maria Gonzalez
 Penny Groggoza
 Hajjar Family
 Richard & Janice Halliday
 Harned Family
 Harris Family
 Heath Family
 Jeff & Lynn Henderson
 Josef & Marhilde Henrich
 Henriquez Family
 Anthony & Ellen Herron

Bob & Jeanie Hodges
 Joel & Rose Hollocher
 Jordat & Aguilar Family
 Keating Family
 John & Jean Kechejian
 Kelly Family
 Jeannene Kelly
 Thomas & Wendy Kesman
 Annalee Kruger
 Henry & Joy Kuchta
 Elizabeth Kutz

Parish Family registrations as of December 15, 2017:

New Registrations	336
Single Individual	85
Couples	150
Families with Children	101

List of New Families continues 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 & 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.

PARISH INFORMATION... OPERATIONAL

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
ksanfelippo@comcast.net

Eucharistic Ministry *EMMinistry@sjecc.com*

Mass

Maureen Reed *Maureen@sjecc.com*

Homebound

Lisa Godlasky *lisa@sjecc.com*

Hospital

Mary Ellen Metro *maryellen@sjecc.com*

Lectors Ministry

L. Philip Baier *lectors@sjecc.com*

Greeters & Ushers:

Bill Fuller *wfuller1@comcast.net*

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: deb@sjecc.com*
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: tricia@sjecc.com*
Anointing of the Sick/Funeral Arrangements. Call the parish office. If the office is closed the answering machine will provide an emergency phone number for you to reach a priest.

*For complete information on the Sacraments, please visit our website: www.sjecc.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

All Administrative Staff
239.566.8740

General Manager

Jean-Paul Boucher: *jp@sjecc.com*

Parish Secretary

Deborah Marsh *deb@sjecc.com*

Front Office Manager

Tricia Schwarz *tricia@sjecc.com*

Pastoral Musician and Liturgist

Gary Prettyman *gary@sjecc.com*

Artistic Director

Jennine Fuentes *jennine@sjecc.com*

Sacristan & Martha's Guild

Lan Tran *lan@sjecc.com*

Director of Family Mission

Jean-Paul Boucher *jp@sjecc.com*

Parish Publications/Bulletin Editor

Kathy Sims *kathys@sjecc.com*

CYO Social and Spiritual

Coordinator

Kyle VanDuser *kyle@sjecc.com*

Memorial Garden

Jean-Paul Boucher *jp@sjecc.com*

Bookkeeper

Karen Beebe *karen@sjecc.com*

Divine Gift Boutique

Elaine deLaurentis *elaine@sjecc.com*

Facilities

239.566.8740, dial 0

Education Staff

Director of Religious Education

Natalie Campbell: *natalie@sjecc.com*

Coordinator, Adult Faith

Formation & RCIA

Jack Kindsvater: *jack@sjecc.com*

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



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

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 and 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

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!

Choirs:

Gary Prettyman: gary@sjecc.com

Adult Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Residents and seasonals welcome.

Children's Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Wednesdays, 5:00 to 5:45 p.m.
Grades 1-5.

Contemporary Choir of St. John the Evangelist.

Rehearsals Sundays, 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
Grades 6-12 especially welcome.

Hospitality. Volunteers serve light refreshments for parishioners who gather after the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday Masses for sharing, communicating and extending fellowship. If interested in helping contact *Elida Gil* at 239.566.8740

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

To Know, To Love, and To Serve God in His Church and Our Community.

Mass Intentions. We are now accepting 2018 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.

Mass Times ~ New Year

Monday, January 1, 2018

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Not a holy day of obligation)

8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

~ regular daily Masses

Holiday Office Closings

The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the New Year holiday on Monday, January 1.

Special Collection for Diocese Seminarian Support

Next Weekend, January 6-7, 2018

The Vocations Committee wants you to be aware that next weekend there will be a special collection for Diocese Seminarian Support. We have 18 young men preparing for the priesthood including one from St. John, Eric Pence.

You may not be aware of how expensive it is to train a priest, but it is every bit as expensive as getting a degree from a upper tier university. Typically, it encompasses 6 years of study so they are fully prepared to serve us. The burden on the diocese is very heavy, and this collection is an important component of the budget to pay those costs.

This is your chance to make a difference by being generous. Also take a minute to introduce yourself to the NET Ministry young men and women who are working among us. Thank them for their devotion to the Church and all they do. There is a vocation few of us would be willing or able to do.



Eric Pence



Faith and Wine

“Top Ten Reasons for Being Catholic”

It is not unusual for people to ask “Why are you Catholic?” If your response is a blank stare or “because that was the way I was raised” or even if you think you have a good answer to this question, we guarantee you will benefit from attending this dynamic event. In his light-hearted and fast-paced presentation, Father Mark will share with us his top 10 reasons for becoming and staying Catholic.

This event is open to both Men and Women.

PLEASE NOTE: Speaker subject to the approval of the Diocese of Venice.

Thursday, January 25, 2018

6:30-8:30 PM (Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

featuring

Father Mark Wiesner



Cost: \$25 per person prepaid by January 23, 2018 • NO WALK-INS!
includes the buffet dinner, a glass of wine or another beverage, and the program

Event Location: To Be Decided.

Become a Sponsor! All sponsors receive one or more tickets for each event (depending upon sponsorship level) and you will never have to worry about deadlines or prepaying! To become a sponsor, please visit our website at www.faithandwine.com and click on “Sponsorship” from the menu bar for more information about levels and benefits and to obtain a Sponsorship pledge form. Please complete the form and mail it with your check to Kathy Millard at 2134 Morning Sun Lane, Naples, FL 34119.

For those who are not sponsors, you can prepay for an event with: (1) a credit or debit card by going to www.saintjohntheevangelist.com and clicking on “Ways to Give”; or (2) a check made payable to “St. John the Evangelist” with “Faith and Wine” in the memo line and either delivered two days or mailed one week prior to the event to the St. John the Evangelist parish office at 625 111th Avenue North, Naples, Florida 34108. Please include a note with your name, the name of each of your guests, if any, and your e-mail address and/or telephone number.

SAVE THE DATES: Mark your calendar now for the remaining Faith and Wine 2018 Dates: February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, September 27, October 25, November 29, and December 14.

For more information, please visit www.FaithandWine.com

MASS INTENTIONS... SPECIAL OBSERVANCES AND READINGS

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

December 30, 2017 Saturday

8:00 AM SI Joshua & Maria Bernardes

Saturday Vigil Masses for Sunday

3:00 PM + Tony Manes John & Sandy Dubberley
5:00 PM + Nicholas Senatore Rosalie & Daughters

December 31, 2017 Sunday

7:00 AM + Mark L. Lukas Ray & Ellen Lee
9:00 AM + Esther & Phil Koplitz Liz & Bob Koplitz
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners
1:15 PM + Jackie Gibson Dolores Kernochan
5:00 PM + Vincenzo Azolino Angelo Pirrone

January 1, 2018 Monday (Not a holy day of obligation)

8:00 AM + Karen Oliver Bernard Hirl
9:00 AM + Fr. Al McPartland Dennis & Fran Powers

January 2, 2018 Tuesday

8:00 AM + Joe Reid Kay Reid
9:00 AM + Philip M. Comerford Mary Jane Tucker

January 3, 2018 Wednesday

8:00 AM + Jackie Gibson Lee Youlio (RIP)
9:00 AM + Daniel Connolly Larry & Mary Jane Abruzzese
6:30 PM + Roman Tomal Claire Kosciak

January 4, 2018 Thursday

8:00 AM + Mary Elizabeth Roth Pat & Ralph Riley
9:00 AM + Ronald O'Neill Ginny & Tom Tette

January 5, 2018 Friday

8:00 AM + Sara Hill Bob Hill
9:00 AM SI Lia Fry Carmen Hodge

January 6, 2018 Saturday

8:00 AM + John Ernest Navarre Gordon & Elvera Clark

Saturday Vigil Masses for Sunday

3:00 PM + Anne Doorich Colleen & Tom Leaky
5:00 PM + David Thomas Sylvia & Tony DeFeo

January 7, 2018 Sunday

7:00 AM + Carmine Devita Paula & Angelo Siciliano
9:00 AM + Jackie Gibson Catherine Reid
11:15 AM For Our Parishioners
1:15 PM + Phillip Comerford Frank & Nancy Walker
5:00 PM + Joe Wojtak Bill & Pat Pfau

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.

SPECIAL OBSERVANCES AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 30, 2017

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday

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

Sunday, December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

Monday, January 1, 2018

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

Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday, January 4, 2018

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday, January 5, 2018

St. John Neumann; First Friday

1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday, January 6, 2018

St. André Bessette; First Saturday

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 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 7, 2018

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

December 31, 2017

“Everyone should be committed to promoting acceptance, encounter and solidarity through concrete support and by encouraging renewed hope.”

— Pope Francis



A Capital Campaign for
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Living Our Mission of Encounter: SJE Sponsors Autism Walk of Naples

One of the founding precepts of Catholic Youth Organization (and now, our Catholic Adult Organization) is that the activities and programs should reach any and all members of the community, no matter their abilities or interests. This means that we should make all possible effort to include those with special needs within our Parish Family and the area. Both CYO and CAO illustrated that focus this month at one of our final service programs of 2017, the first ever Autism Speaks Walk of Southwest Florida. Our Parish Family and friends came together to sponsor this wonderful effort to educate, research, and serve the individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as their families and friends. Father Bob spoke to the crowd about the joy of Christmas and how, no matter what name you call God, we are all here to spread his love and community.

Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder, refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. We now know that there is not one autism but many subtypes, and each person with autism can have unique strengths and challenges. It is not enough to develop medical services for those families effected by Autism, but it is essential to assist those impacted with empowering engagement, activities and programs to include and support the full life of individuals with Autism. Some of the services include local business employment programs and family counseling. Saint John led the walk both in sponsorship and in participation, with our Mission Moment Team celebrating our Autistic children, grandchildren, friends and loved ones.

As we **Build Our Future, Serve Our Past**, we still need all the gifts, prayers, and support of our Parish Family. If you have any questions, please contact Jean-Paul Boucher, at 239.566.8740 or email: jp@sjecc.com.



Jean-Paul Boucher, General Manager

2017 Year in Review: The Heart and Soul of Saint John

Just when I thought there was no way to top what this Parish Family accomplished in 2016, I was absolutely blown away by 2017, quite literally. Saint John the Evangelist experienced the single largest challenge in our 27-year history this year with Hurricane Irma, a massive storm whose eye came directly over the campus. The storm and its aftermath have been the central focus of our church for months, so it can be hard to remember just how much we accomplished prior to September 10, much less the whirlwind of activities since the storm. However, it is so important to take that step back to realize the breadth and depth of the efforts of our Parish Family, both here in at St. John and in the larger community. I usually focus on one or two components of our mission each week, but the sheer volume of activities and efforts in 2017 To Know, To Love, and To Serve God in His Church and Our Community cry out for some highlights:

#ToKnow

- Faith Formation Grows to Over 500 Youth:** How could we not start off our faith enrichment highpoints without illustrating that we now have over 500 youth in our Faith Formation Program? Some of you may remember Faith Formation as “Sunday School” or “CCD”. Faith Formation is our weekly persistent religious education program. It is much more than purely education, however, as Natalie Campbell and her team have enhanced these moments of faith encounter with prayerful moments, opportunities for the families to become involved together, and expansion of post-Confirmation programs. The Adult Faith Formation program, led by Jack Kindsvater, has also expanded significantly this year, with a spectrum of programs to grow our Parish Family’s understanding and engagement with our faith. We are building the future of the church with our youth and shoring up the foundation of every age’s faith formation.



- SJE Sends Delegation to Convocation of Catholic Leaders:** Perhaps the most important moment of 2017 for the U.S. Catholic Church occurred in July in Orlando with the Convocation of Catholic Leaders. This program was created by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to “form leaders who will be equipped and re-energized to share the Gospel as missionary disciples” (<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/get-involved/meetings-and-events/convocation-2017/index.cfm>).



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



What did it mean to St. John? It completely confirmed the Mission focus of our Parish Family, with our outward efforts to spread the love and joy of our faith through our actions. It also showcased that our efforts to develop fellowship for all ages and all the members of the larger Naples community with CYO, CAO, and the Life Center, are directly in-line with the leadership of the Catholic Church, all the way up to Pope Francis.

- Arts and Music Programs Begins at SJE:** It has been part of Fr. John’s vision since he began the transformation of our Parish Family. The Catholic Church has been the largest patron of the arts for centuries. We cannot allow the beauty of music and the fine arts to be lost, both for the youth and the adult communities. CYO music instruction, including group piano, painting, violin, and voice programs provide inexpensive and inclusive opportunities for children to learn an instrument or how to use watercolors to express their emotions and their creativity. CAO dancing, art appreciation, singing, and guitar classes have opened up the world of the arts to our adults as well, from an Improv Class for our Young



Adults to ballroom dancing for all. This also includes concerts, plays, and other opportunities for our Parish Family to experience and appreciate the splendor of the arts together.



- Construction Kicks into High Gear:** I had commented on the “Tale of Two Campuses” after Hurricane Irma, referencing the active building project of the Pulte Family Life Center and the rest of our campus, which is heavily damaged by the storm. Well, the past weeks have showcased just how much can be accomplished with determination and dedication. Not only has the Life Center begun to take shape, with the frames springing forth from the ground, but critical steps for our church and other facilities have begun. The skylight has been removed from the church roof before it caused more leaks. Our Bell Tower has



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Parish Mission & Life continued from page 6

been removed to ensure the safety of all our Parish Family and will be rebuilt with our church renovation efforts. The new Air Conditioning systems have been installed in the church, hopefully making Christmas comfortable for all that attended. Progress is being made on all fronts to get us to our repaired, renewed, and reinvigorated campus.

#ToLove

- **Gaelic and Garlic Festival Celebrates Saints and Packs 2,600 People Into SJE:** Over 150 volunteers of our Parish Family supported the first ever Gaelic and Garlic Festival, a two-day Irish and Italian cultural festival, held between Saint Patrick's Day and the Saint Joseph Feast. While there were questions about the validity of such an event here at St. John, there is no doubt that it was a huge success! Over 2,600 people from all over the area came to St. John to sample corned beef, pizza, and many different food and drink options. We were serenaded by Broadway Opera Stars and watched the Tir Na Nog Irish Step Dancers high kick around the Ballroom. With the Bishop blessing the groundbreaking of the Life Center and the procession of Saint Joseph after Mass into the celebration, we integrated our faith with our fun festival extravaganza. The smiling faces of the children (and adults) eating cotton candy and funnel cakes through our campus made every second worthwhile.



While there were questions about the validity of such an event here at St. John, there is no doubt that it was a huge success! Over 2,600 people from all over the area came to St. John to sample corned beef, pizza, and many different food and drink options. We were serenaded by Broadway Opera Stars and watched the Tir Na Nog Irish Step Dancers high kick around the Ballroom. With the Bishop blessing the groundbreaking of the Life Center and the procession of Saint Joseph after Mass into the celebration, we integrated our faith with our fun festival extravaganza. The smiling faces of the children (and adults) eating cotton candy and funnel cakes through our campus made every second worthwhile.

- **Parish Family Celebrates Father John's 20th Anniversary of Ordination:** We all rejoiced in our Pastor's, Fr. John, 20 years of priestly service this year. We have been blessed to have him for over 8 of those years, and it was a true

testament to his impact on our community that so many people came to thank him. The Knights of Columbus served these 800 hungry people after Mass with a simple picnic of hamburgers and hot



dogs (with all the trimmings, including some award-winning chili and homemade coleslaw). The applause for Fr. John's Homily rang out in the church as he explained just how important his family was to him, including the vestments he wore both at his anniversary Mass and the day of

his ordination that his family had sewn just for him. He then stood for 4 hours straight, greeting and thanking every single person in line, with no breaks.

- **CAO Movie Night – Spotlight:** Some things are not comfortable, especially when it comes to looking back at mistakes and completely inexcusable behavior. The Catholic Church scandal that has continued to rock the institution of the Church came to light in Boston, MA. Spotlight is a movie worth watching for mature audiences, especially those of us that truly care that our Church never allow these abuses to occur again within our walls. Our Parish Family came together to not only watch this powerful film, but also many attended a listening session with our priests to explain how these events and this scandal has impacted their lives and those of their loved ones.



- **Bee Gees Tribute Night Kicks Off CAO:** A packed house, a full dance floor. The Catholic Adult Organization, St. John's new programmatic focus to provide fellowship for our adult Parish Family members and the community through sports and wellness, arts and music, and social and spiritual



activities, kicked off our social events with a brand-new event, Saturday Night Fever! This disco themed party included the largest mirror ball in Southwest Florida, spinning above our dance floor as the Bee Gees Tribute Band, Stayin' Alive, rocked out with 70s hits. We created a "VIP" Room for a pre-party, full of fondue and specialty drinks, and individuals were able to gather before the main event, ensuring that no one would feel left out. There were people decked out in their bell bottoms and

disco clothes, and they danced the night away. We sold more tickets in two weeks than any other event in recent memory, especially in August, and the room was bursting with over 350 people from all over the area enjoying their evening at St. John.

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Parish Mission & Life continued from page 7

#ToServe

- **Helping Hands Feeds 40,000 in 1 Hour:** Would it be possible to double our efforts from 2016, where we made 20,000 meals in 46 minutes? Our Parish Family responded with an emphatic “YES!” We set up the Ballroom as two full assembly lines to pack special meal packets for Catholic Relief Services, who serve refugee camps around the world. In order to assist us in our Mission focus, Father Donald Doll provided photographs he has taken around the world in assisting the Jesuit Refugee Services. These striking images put a human face to the meals we were making, and with Father John’s rousing opening statement (and red hairnet), well over 300 volunteers got right to work. With all the love and joy that was being spread in the room and everyone working tirelessly, we were able to pack food for 40,000 people in just 1 hour and 3 minutes! The final gong went off and all the volunteers, exhausted from their hard work, cheered and shouted. A final blessing came to us all as New York Pizza and Pasta donated 50 pizzas to our volunteers to feed them after they had fed so many.



- **Parish Family Comes Together to Support Community After Hurricane Irma:** There is not a single moment this year that showcases the love, healing, joy, and action of our faith than the two weeks after Hurricane Irma decimated Naples, Immokalee, and the entire Southwest Florida area. Even without power at our church, we continued to gather for Mass and then take action every single day to assist the community. We packed 45 truckloads of donations that were we delivered with our own box truck to Immokalee, East Naples, and even right here in Naples Park. We were a



water and ice distribution node for the local community. We delivered diapers to the Guadalupe Center and to the FEMA support center at Saint Peter’s. We went up to St. Leo’s and grabbed pallets of water and food to give out. Dozens of volunteers spent their days in the hot sun gathering the wonderful gifts our Parish Family brought to the church and they sorted it all out for the deliveries. In the midst of all the devastation, the laughing and camaraderie, the sweat and the grit, the pure love came through in every face and every hug on our campus. Our Parish Family made a difference.

- **Feeding 1600 People with Thanksgiving in the Park:** As if we had not just spent every ounce of energy in September serving the community after the Hurricane, our Parish Family again focused on the action of love by building over 1600 hot meals at the Immokalee Airport Park on Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving in the Park was in its 36th year, but this was the first time that St. John took on the entire responsibility to execute it from beginning to end. Our partner, the Guadalupe Center, assisted us with the transition. Donna, my wife, led 375 volunteers over the week of service that supported Thanksgiving in the Park, from gathering turkeys during “Take Your Turkey to Church” Weekend, shredding those 200+ turkeys, and of course serving the meals in Immokalee. Their efforts were seen in the smiles of the children who got a warm meal, a chance to play in the park with our CYO corn-hole and kick-ball games, and enjoy a moment of warmth and love of the community. When we found out that a local community was too afraid to come to the park, we put food into a minivan and drove it to their homes.



What continues to astonish me in my service to our Parish Family is that these highlights are just singular moments of our community that continuously lives out our mission. Every single day, we have members of our community visiting the sick, comforting the lonely, serving the poor around the world, and enlivening our youth with fun activities. Each and every member of our church should be proud to say “We Are Saint John”. Thank you all for this constant dedication to our mission and our faith. You are truly a blessing.

Now, just you wait until 2018...

LET US PRAY...

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

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

PRAYER GROUPS

Pray The Rosary & The Chaplet of Divine Mercy Carol Swank 757.559.4761

Cenacle of Life Prayer Group Patricia Bucalo: 239.248.0694

Divine Will Prayer Group Gorana Saner: 239.293.1765

Centering Prayer/Lectio Divina Mondays at 5:30 p.m.: Kathleen Dunne: kadunne61@aol.com, 901.574.2947

Liturgy of the Hours Phyllis Gryskiewicz: After 8:00 a.m. Mass. pmgrys@aol.com

THROUGH THE DARKNESS BRING US TO THE LIGHT

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

Adam Decker
Nick Detloff
Sp. Douglas Hennessy
Staff Sgt. Brian Holmes
Marine Colonel Brian Howlett
Christian McLaughlin - U.S. Navy Sicily
Sgt. Larry Oldenburg - U.S. Army Iraq
Austin Spagnola
Staff Sgt. Andrew Zecchino -USAF Turkey

Note: In order to place a name on our Military Prayer List, that individual (the individual to be prayed for), must provide us with a signed release (or email-based approval) prior to the inclusion of his/her name in the printed Military Prayer List.

To download the Consent Form visit our website: <http://sjecc.com/forms>

Thank you for your understanding.

OUTREACH & OTHER GROUPS

AA. Robert: 239.287.2442

Adult Children of Alcoholics. Tom Mooney, 239.287.0195

Al-Anon. Carol: 804.306.5323 and Juliette: Lysack

Food Addiction Support Group. Maryann Scandiffio, 239.784.2682

Narcotics Anonymous. 888.435.7301

Cursillistas. Robyn DeVille: 239.253.6275 or robyndeville@earthlink.net

Gambler's Anonymous. 1-800-ADMIT-IT

Habitat for Humanity. Koullouheras:nick@hfhcollier.com

Mah Jong. Space Limited. Lanelle Bishop: 239.352.1860

Pinochle. Joseph DeJesus: 239.598.9865

Recovering Couples Anonymous. Britta: 239.348.5031 or Roger: 239.250.6888

PRAYER LIST

We remember those who have died recently, especially:

Rosalee DeGenova and Joni Wilbur

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

Baby Declan Aigner	Jayne Hagg	Irene Pires
Kaylee B	Gerard Heyer	Renee Rake
Jean Balliro	Rosie Heyer	Ruth Rechtsteiner
Beagan Family	Krista Leigh Kozowyk	Ellen Roberts
Richard Becker	Rene Lacoste	Lloyd Sample
Gallen Boardman	Jean Lydon	Lisa Sanfelippo
William M. Boardman	M.M.	Shelia Scaduto
Lori Breyman	Diane Maloney	Gary Schutebach
Caeleigh Brown	Margie Lynch	Thomas Sissman
Connie Cahill	Maria and Family	Avery Smithies
Kathy Conley	Ron Marlow	Nancy Stewart
Corinne & Children	Barbara Marsh	Edward Sullivan
Lauren Carr	Donna Massee	Rita Taranto
Frank Comeriato	Kevin McDonagh	William J. Teplia
Merlyn Comeriato	J. McG	Isaiah Thompson
Tony Corvelo	Paul McIntyre	Marilyn Thyen
Anthony D'Antuono	Cynthia McLemore	Helen Thornburg
Mark DaBronzo	Carolyn McNichols	JoAnn Tinevra
Donald Demski	Eileen Miner	Jim Tucker
Florence Demski	Mary Ann Morreale	Lawrence A. Varone
Melissa Diamantini	Lorrie Morrison	Mike Walsman
George Dillon	Gary Neidhard	Dan Ward
Leon Doughty	Jane Oraziotti	Sandra Welker
Kathy Erickson	Emma O'Rourke	Bernadette White
F.W.	Ronald J. Parker	Kirsten Wills
Jim Follese	Michael Paul	Nancy Wise
Tara Follese & Family	Francesca Pearo	
Jeff Gatt	Anne Perrino	
George Gonser Jr.	Geno Pesce	
Philip Gorney	Ann Petrillo	

Note: In order to place a name on our Prayer List, that individual (the individual to be prayed for), must provide us with a signed release (or email-based approval) prior to the inclusion of his/her name in the printed Prayer List.

To download the Consent Form visit our website: <http://sjecc.com/forms>

PARISH COUNCILS:

Building 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. *Council President: Bill Sjoström: bsjost@yahoo.com or 815.670.3733*

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. *Council President: Robert Stiff: rcs0242@gmail.com or 239.989.5149*

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 or 239.597.2086*

MEET OUR MINISTRIES:

Arimatheans. Arimatheans attend funeral Masses and memorial services to provide support and compassion. *Anne Petrillo: gapetrillo41@gmail.com or 239.248.2189*

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: *Beth Lucci: sjeride@gmail.com or 239.877.6254*

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 deLaurentis: elaine@sjecc.com or 239.228.3921*

Divorced and Separated Support Group Our mission is to become the light in the life of separated/divorced Catholics by giving them a sense of inclusion in our parish family and providing support and guidance through our shared spiritual journey. We

meet Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please call for more information *Lhara Echeverria: 239.293.3694 or lhariza@yahoo.com or Beth Lucci: 239.877.6254*

Faith and Wine. Provide interesting and thought provoking speakers monthly with food and fellowship for women in the Diocese. Info: *www.faithandwine@gmail.com, or Nancy Squittieri: faithandwine@gmail.com or 239.272.4257*

Grief Support Ministry. Grief facilitators hold support groups as needed to give support to those suffering a loss. *Leo Gallagher: 239.594.1535*

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: 239.248.3248 or info@jamaicaoutreach.org*

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: 239.498.9900*

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:** *Marie Elaina Mullin: 239.273.1702. To join: Carole Mancini: froglady505@gmail.com 239.370.1521*

Marriage Ministry: Together Forever. Enriches the sacrament of marriage. Couples gather: 1) To share and know, 2) To grow and love, 3) To listen and serve and to celebrate our healthy marriages. All married or engaged couples are welcome to join us in celebration of their marriage as we take this journey together. Meets monthly on Saturday evenings at 6:30 p.m. *Rachel Baier: 239.498.4197*

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 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. *Men's: Jack Nalipinski: 412.613.3551 and Millie Lucanegro: 239.566.9854; Ladies: besunnyinflorida@gmail.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: relife@aol.com or 239.250.0432*

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. *Phyllis Crivelli: jandpcrivelli@gmail.com or 239.594.1148 or Barbara Arthur: 239.250.4162*

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. *Carl Monticelli: (SVdP Office): 239.775.1667*

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 or 239.370.4277*

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 nancybdds@comcast.net*

Knights of Columbus Councils:

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: jmcd708@comcast.net or 239.947.6454*

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. Visiting Knights are welcome. *Grand Knight Ed Phelps: efpep@aol.com or 239.339.3847*

Jamaica Outreach Program

February 9-12: A Special Weekend Marking A Special Anniversary; Hosts Needed for Jamaica Choir Members

The Jamaica Outreach Program (JOP) will be celebrating its 20th anniversary on the weekend of February 9-12, 2018. To mark the occasion, Kevin Williams and his choir will be participating in the liturgy at most Masses that weekend. Bishop Burchell McPherson of Montego Bay will concelebrate Mass with Fr. John at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on February 10. We hope that a legion of JOP volunteers and supporters who have served our ministry over the years will join us at that Mass.



transport their guests to church on Saturday and Sunday. The evening meals for hosts and their guests are provided by the JOP throughout the weekend. The Jamaicans will arrive in Naples around noon on February 9, and leave around 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 12. If you can open your heart and your front door to our Jamaican visitors in February, please contact Martha Mador at 860.449.2105 or martha@madors.net. Chances are you will be glad you did.

We need, hope and pray, that we will be able to find volunteers who will step up and offer to host Kevin, choir members, and other Jamaican guests for the weekend. Hosts are asked to shelter, provide two meals a day, and

Bishop Burchell of Montego Bay, Jamaica, Jeanne Stamant, and Ray Shawcross (left to right) met last summer to review and reminisce about JOP's 20 year ministry in Jamaica.

text and photo submitted by Martha Mador, JOP

St. John Welcomes 146 New Families Since June 1

continued from page 1

Lafontaine Family
Frank & Ann Marie LaForge
Frank & Patricia LaRocca
Lienesch Family
Richard & Arnette Lindeen
Robert Lutz
Lyons Family
Brian & Laurie McArdle
Patrick & Marcella McConville
McGovern Family
McKeown Family
Robert & Charlene Meadows
Medic Family
Medina & Medellin Family
Miner Family
Mongillo Family
Montecalvo Family
Mourad Family

Munoz Family
Nakata Family
Jane Neubecker
Nuccio Family
Patrick O'Connell
Audrey O'Connor
O'Keefe Family
Olsen Family
John & Patricia O'Neill
Pancaro Family
Kimberly Picucci
Richard & Leslie Pond
Denise Praz
Noreen Price
Puthoff Family
Michelle Quiles
Ramos Family
Robert & Lorraine Rau
Restrepo Family

Frank & Rosemary Rezac
Rodriguez & Herrera Family
Rojas & Silvera Family
Christine Rothstein
Scandaliato Family
Schutt Family
Selias Family
Shaw Family
William & Ellen Siekierski
Smith Family
Drake Family
Anne Snee
Soriero Family
Sorothen Family
Spegowski Family
Speicher Family
Martha Spring
Strathmann Family
Styles Family

Mark & Toni Sullivan
James Terrill-Liesz
Michael Terrill-Liesz
Thompson Family
Torkelson Family
Kenneth & Charlotte Travis
Nick & Lu Uram
Gerard & Barbara Vachon
Ronald & Christine Vercellotti
Anne Vitale
Walford Family
Tracy Wallen
Washburn Family
Wendt Family
Michael Wesselman
Joseph & Sue Zaccagnino

We apologize if we have left anyone out or inadvertently misspelled any names.

Hymns for the Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, December 30 & 31, 2017

Readings: Page 53

Prelude Hymn:	99	O Little Town of Bethlehem
Entrance Hymn:	92	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Preparation Hymns:	81	God Rest You Merry Gentlemen
	77	Away in a Manger
Communion Hymns:	84	Of the Father's Love Begotten
	87	Silent Night
(If needed)	90	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Closing Hymn:	80	Angels We Have Heard on High

Bishop Frank J. Dewane to Honor Couples Celebrating Marriage with a Special Mass This Winter

All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor. The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated in two locations: 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 17 at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice, and 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 10 at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs.

More details will be available in future bulletins.

Seven-Week Grief Support Group Begins January 9

A seven-week grief support group will begin at St. John on Tuesday, January 9. The gathering will be from 10:00 -11:30 a.m. each Tuesday and will meet in Room 11 in the Claussen Family Center. Meeting dates are: January 9, January 16, January 23, January 30, February 6, February 13, and February 20.

Anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend.

There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, please call Geri Poletti at Catholic Charities at 455.2655.

Any parishioner who needs individual grief support or immediate assistance may contact the parish office to set up an appointment with one of our priests.

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. No children are permitted to attend these sessions.

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 4	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	St. Ann Parish, Naples	239.262-4256
Saturday, January 6	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Ann Parish, Naples	239.262-4256
Thursday, February 15	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Peter the Apostle, Naples	239.775.9576
Saturday, February 17	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Peter the Apostle, Naples	239.775.9576
Saturday, February 17	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Peter the Apostle, Naples	239.775.9576
Thursday, February 22	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Leo the Great, Bonita Springs	239.992.0901
Saturday, February 24	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Leo the Great, Bonita Springs	239.992.0901
Thursday, March 1	6:00-8:00 p.m.	St. Finbarr, Naples	239.417.2084
Saturday, March 3	9:30-11:30 a.m.	St. Finbarr, Naples	239.417.2084
Thursday, March 8	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Light, Fort Myers	239.267.7088
Thursday, March 10	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Our Lady of Light, Fort Myers	239.267.7088

For the complete list of regional trainings that will be held this winter and spring and for additional updates, please visit <http://dioceseofvenice.org/programs/safe-environment/training-schedule/>

The next trainings will be scheduled in the spring and summer of 2018.

Hymns for the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God, January 1, 2018

Readings: Page 56

Prelude Hymn:	698	On This Day, O Beautiful Mother
Entrance Hymn:	78	Joy to the World
Preparation Hymns:		<i>Ave Maria (Cantor solo)</i> -or-
	706	Hail Mary: Gentle Woman
Communion Hymn:	96	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Closing Hymn:	526	Let There Be Peace on Earth



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

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

Gift Shop Hours: Saturday: 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday: 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

“Live, Laugh and Learn Symposium - Life with Parkinson Disease” to be Presented Tuesday, January 9

Every nine minutes someone in our community is diagnosed with Parkinson Disease. The Parkinson Association of Southwest Florida presents “Live, Laugh and Learn Symposium - Life with Parkinson Disease” Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

For more information or to attend please call 239.417.3465.

Mark Your Calendar for the Venetian Charity Ball Saturday, February 3

The Venetian Charity Ball will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 3 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort in Bonita Springs. The evening will include a cocktail hour, auctions, a raffle for a car and other exciting items, dinner, and dancing. For information and tickets visit www.catholiccharitiesdov.org or call 239.337.4193 or email venetianball@ccslee.org.

2018 Women’s Conference Saturday, February 3

Women of all ages are invited to a day filled with the richness of our faith at the 2018 Diocese of Venice Women’s Conference. The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Saturday, February 3, at Bishop Verot Catholic High School in Fort Myers. Cost in advance is \$20 (pre-registration online), students \$5 pre-registration. Cost at the door is \$30, and \$10 for students.

This year’s speakers are Kimberly Hahn, Sonja Corbitt, and Rosario Rodriguez. Join us in enjoying the tenderness of God’s love and mercy!

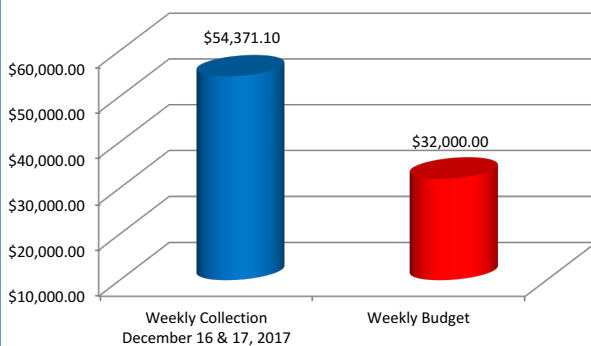
To register, please visit www.dioceseofvenice.org/womens.

2018 Men’s Conference Saturday, February 24

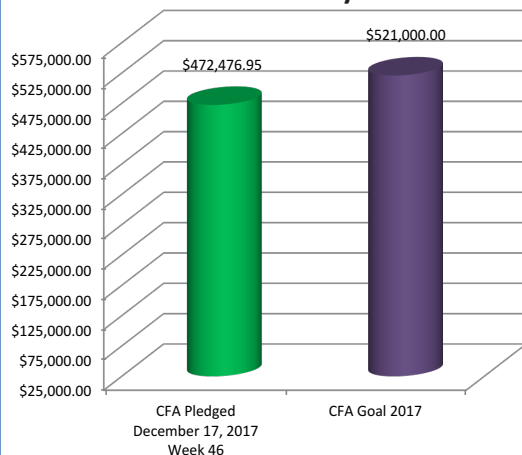
The Diocese of Venice extends an invitation to all men who desire to encounter the presence of God to attend the 2018 Diocese of Venice Men’s Conference from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24 at Bishop Verot Catholic High School in Fort Myers. Cost in advance is \$20 (pre-registration online), students \$5 pre-registration. Cost at the door is \$30, and \$10 for students.

The speakers this year are Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Patrick Coffin, and Bob Rice. Come be filled and transformed with the fire of God’s love! To register, please visit to www.dioceseofvenice.org/mens.

Weekly Collection Summary



CFA Summary



Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Colossians 3:12-21 or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

The Word & Life

The Dream of Prophets and Prophetesses Fulfilled

*T*he day parents bring their child for baptism is a special day. It marks the beginning of a journey into God and into the world. The parents bring their child and promise to teach their child in the ways of faith and to allow their child to participate in a life of the Church. As we listen to the gospel from St. Luke on the Feast of the Holy Family, we recall the great day that Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple to dedicate his life to God and to circumcise him. Mary and Joseph were marking Jesus' entry into a life with God and also preparing him to journey into the world. This religious rite was a sacred passage for them and for their child. It was a moment of encounter in which God speaks through others to the Holy Family.

The two people God chooses to reveal his plan are Simeon and Anna, a prophetess. Simeon is an old man whose name means "God has heard". We are told that he was religious and devout. He had prayed to God all of his life that he would not die before he had seen the Anointed One of God – the Christ. What a tender moment as we listen to the gospel account recall how Simeon took Christ Jesus into his arms and realized that his prayer had been heard and his life's dream fulfilled. "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace,

according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all peoples, a light for revelation..." This is a moment of encounter with Simeon and his Lord, and for Jesus' parents and Anna, the discerning prophetess. However, for Simeon, it is a bittersweet moment in which he realizes that the life of Jesus would meet opposition and pain. Anna, whose name means "favor" or "grace" and whose life was spent in fasting and prayer, thanks God for the redemption the child would bring into the world.

The most amazing thing about this encounter is that Mary and Joseph, along with their son, Jesus, had to return to their own town of Nazareth and make sense of what was going to unfold in their lives and the life of their son. We are told that Jesus, after returning, started to grow and become strong. He also allowed the favor and wisdom of God to be with him. The Holy Family, like all families, would help one another discern God's wisdom and help bring security to one another. Sometimes we have to listen to what is not being said in the Sacred Scriptures to figure out the divine drama that was waiting to unfold. Jesus had to come to terms with who he was and his purpose in regard to the heavenly Father's will. As a young child he must have asked the impossible questions in

Reflection Questions

1. What sacrifices do Mary and Joseph make in their lives?
2. How does Joseph discern God's will in his life?
3. How do you imagine life was for the Holy Family?
4. How would Mary and Joseph have aided Jesus in his faith formation and life?
5. Why is the family important for society?
6. How do you discern God's will?
7. What sacrifices are you prepared to make for Jesus Christ?
8. In what ways can you contribute to the faith formation of others?

which Mary and Joseph in the simplicity could only respond in a humble way. There were most probably times when Jesus' parents were confused and unsure of the path that God was leading their son on. However, we hear elsewhere, that Mary pondered on all these things in her heart and trusted in the Lord.

So we could ask ourselves how can such an example inspire us many years later. The truth is that God is still with us. God wants to be a part of our lives and so encourages us to bring others to this reality. Salvation is within our grasp when we discern and live the will of the Father. Contemplating the wisdom of Jesus and living the truth of his love enables us to pave our destiny that leads us to our heavenly wisdom. It is within the context of the family that we start to build a civilization of love. Parents share in the nature of God, as they become co-creators – bringing life into the world and teaching their children the ways of faith. Just as the Holy Family had to deal with divine consequences in raising Jesus, so too, parents share in the same sacred dilemma as they seek to do best for the children. The place of the family is of utmost importance to society. It is there that a solid foundation is firmly set and where children learn values, morality and ethics. It is within the context of the family that children learn by example of their parents, setting the stage for their lives. Hopefully, it is within the interaction of family life where children comprehend God's love and God's will. As children become adults and move away from the family unit, they are called to shape the world around them with the values that have been instilled in them.

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



Prayer

We pray in the words of Paul to the Colossians: Lord, help us to truly understand the gift of family life as we contemplate the sacrifices and virtues of your Holy Family. Help us to "... put on heart-felt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience by bearing with one another and forgiving one another". Amen.

Wisdom of the Fathers

"How do we keep our faith? Do we keep it for ourselves, in our families, as a personal treasure, or are we able to share it by our witness, by our acceptance of others, by our openness? We all know that families, especially young families, are often "racing" from one place to another, with lots to do. But did you ever think that this "racing" could also be the race of faith? Christian families are missionary families, in their everyday life, in their doing everyday things, as they bring to everything the salt and the leaven of faith...!

... There is one more thought we can take from God's word: the family experiences joy. In the responsorial psalm we find these words: "let the humble hear and be glad" (33/34:2). The entire psalm is a hymn to the Lord who is the source of joy and peace. What is the reason for this gladness? It is that the Lord is near, he hears the cry of the lowly and he frees them from evil...

... Dear families, you know very well that the true joy which we experience in the family is not superficial; it does not come from material objects, from the fact that everything seems to be going well... True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons, something which we all feel in our hearts and which makes us experience the beauty of togetherness, of mutual support along life's journey. But the basis of this feeling of deep joy is the presence of God in the family and his love, which is welcoming, merciful, and respectful towards all. God alone knows how to create harmony from differences. But if God's love is lacking, the family loses its harmony, self-centredness prevails and joy fades. But the family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, it is the leaven of society.

Dear families, always live in faith and simplicity, like the Holy Family of Nazareth! The joy and peace of the Lord be always with you!"

— Pope Francis, St. Peter's Square, Sunday, October 27th, 2013

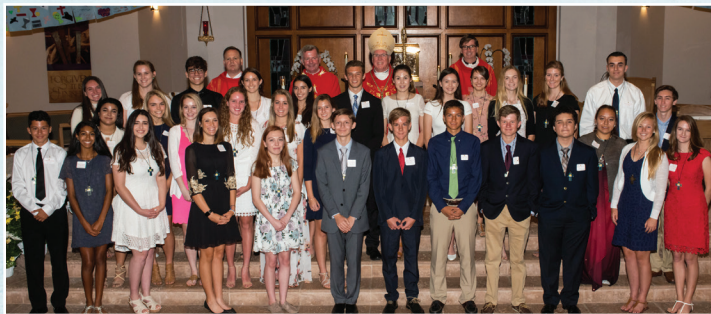


*The Holy Family/Wikimedia Commons/Juan
Simon Gutierrez*

Faith Formation

2017-2018 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, February 8, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

Parents, please also attend the First Reconciliation Rehearsal on Thursday, February 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

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

As 95 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 at a date to be Announced Soon!

Parents and Sponsors, please attend the Confirmation Rehearsal at a date to be Announced Soon!

First Communion

We will celebrate the sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 12 at 11:00 a.m.

Parents, please attend the First Communion Rehearsal on Thursday, May 10 at 5:30 p.m.

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*)

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

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA

Winter Adult Faith Formation Programs Begin – You Are Invited to Participate

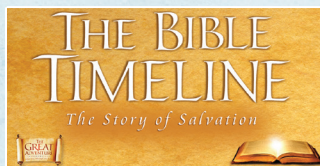


On Thursday, January 4, at 9:30 a.m., the Women of the Word (WoW) will begin a new program *Unleashed: How to Receive Everything the Holy Spirit Wants to Give You*.

In this book based program, the author Sonja Corbitt shares her passion for the scriptures by weaving the Word of God with her own experiences to show how the Holy Spirit flows through readers' lives in relationships, prayer, and even in times of suffering.

ALL women at St. John are invited to join WoW in the Seminar Room of the Claussen Family Center for this journey.

The lunchtime section of *The BIBLE TIMELINE*, begun last Spring, will resume Wednesday, January 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Seminar Room with session 13, Divided Kingdom.



Christian Meditation instruction and practice will begin on Friday, January 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the Seminar Room. Over eight weeks, this new program will not only introduce and explain Christian Meditation, but explore and demonstrate how meditation can benefit your body, by reducing stress and lowering blood pressure, as well as your soul, by centering on God.

Adult **Confirmation** preparation will begin Sunday, January 21 at 6:00 p.m., location TBD. This day and time was chosen to make it as convenient as possible for parishioners who were baptized Catholic and received their First Communion, but for whatever reason have not been confirmed, to receive this once in a lifetime sacrament.



Sessions will be monthly leading up to Confirmation at Saint John the Evangelist by Bishop DeWayne in late April or May.

“Confirmation is an assertive counterpart to passive baptism.” (Karl Rahner) It is never too late; our adult confirmandi have ranged in age from 18 to 80.

Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues, Bishop Robert Barron's practical, modern-day look at sin and virtue, is based on Dante Alighieri's great poem *The Divine Comedy* – a great story of an epic journey through Hell, up Mount Purgatory, and into Heaven, as well as **an exploration of the great truths concerning human nature, our relationship with God, and the soul's journey to happiness.**



Pride, envy, anger, sloth, gluttony, avarice, and lust are presented as patterns of dysfunction within us that lead to unhappiness. For example, Lust, which our culture has long taught us to believe is the very worst sin, Dante regards as the lightest and least serious of the deadly sins. Why?

Bishop Barron shows us how to counteract these sinful patterns through a conscious process of opposition, which are the “seven lively virtues” which offer antidotes to each sin and help set us on the right path to healing and happiness.

The aim is to increase understanding, promote reflection, and encourage practical action.

This Lent, join us on this journey from sin to sanctity beginning Wednesday, January 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Rome Room. The program will be repeated on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. beginning January 28.

This Week's Schedule

Wednesday, January 3

The Bible Timeline, Session 19 ~ 7:30 p.m., Rome Room

Thursday, January 4

Women of the Word, Unleashed ~ 9:30 a.m., Seminar Room

Sunday, January 7

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, Messianic Fulfillment part 2 ~ 9:15 a.m., Rome Room

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

CYO & CAO Concert Series 2017-2018 Season

continues January 25 with

Philip Borter, Cellist

Philip Lawrence Borter is quickly becoming recognized as one of the most diverse stringed instrumentalist of his generation. Being equally comfortable in traditional as well as non-traditional performance styles, Dr. Borter has prided himself in exploring and sharing an incredibly varied repertory.



This FREE Concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

REMAINING CONCERT SEASON:

Paradise Coastman Barbershop Quartet ~ February 6, 2018 • Annual Broadway Concert ~ February 24, 2018

Garlic and Gaelic Festival ~ March 3 & 4, 2018 • Dan Heck Quartet Jazz Concert ~ April 12, 2018

For more info on the concert series, email: jennine@sjecc.com

Trappist Preserves and Creamed Honey on Sale in Divine Gift Boutique

If you are looking for Christmas gifts, hostess gifts, or something for yourself, check out our gift shop. The Divine Gift Boutique has stocked up on the renowned Trappist Preserves and Creamed Honey.

The Boutique is selling Red Raspberry, Blackberry, Blueberry, Strawberry, Rhubarb-Strawberry, Mango-Pepper, Ginger, Cranberry Preserves, Seville Orange Marmalade, Sherry Wine Jelly, and Port Wine Jelly for \$6.00 each.

Made by the Roman Catholic priests and brothers of St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts, the Preserves are prized for their exceptional richness and taste.

The Trappist Creamed Honeys, from the Trappists of Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, Virginia, are also available in the gift shop.

The gift shop is selling Natural (plain), Almond, Orange, Cinnamon, and Lemon Top Creamed Honey flavors for \$8.00 each.

Don't miss these authentic monk made delicacies!



Marriage Ministry: Together Forever

Enjoy a date night with Catholic fellowship at Saint John the Evangelist as you enrich your marriage with our new enrichment series, entitled **The Choice Wine**. Enjoy appetizers and marriage discussion. The Choice Wine offers a new topic each evening, so don't worry if you can't make all the dates.

presents

THE CHOICE Wine™

7 STEPS

TO A SUPERABUNDANT MARRIAGE

Remaining Dates:

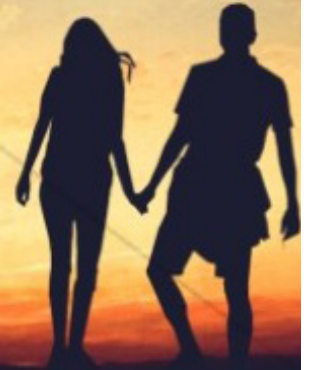
Jan. 20, Feb. 24, March 24, April 28,
May 19, June 30, July 28, Aug. 25

Next session:

January 20, 2018 at 6:30 pm
in the Claussen Family Center

Join us for fellowship, food and marriage enrichment!

Please RSVP to the office at 239.566.8740 and indicate if you need the nursery.



HEAR SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SHOW TUNES & LIGHT OPERA

in Concert

January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

in the St. John the Evangelist Church



Joseph Ryan
Baritone

YOUR FAVORITE SHOW TUNES & LIGHT OPERA

Last year's concert drew rave reviews!!

Don't miss this all-new program!

STARRING: *Opera Naples Professional Artists*



Melissa Fajardo
Mezzo Soprano



Heather Vicevic
Soprano

Benefits the

Jamaica Outreach Program

Tickets: \$25.00

Online: JamaicaOutreach.org

or call 239-948-2145 • *Tickets will be held for you at the door.*

Annual Vocations Dinner Dance Has Been Cancelled

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the annual Vocations Dinner Dance, scheduled for Friday, January 12, 2018 has been cancelled. The ballroom, which has been undergoing extensive repair and renovation due to the damages incurred as a result of hurricane Irma, will not be completed in time for the Vocations Dinner Dance.

Paul Curti will be contacting ticketholders in regards to refunding their money. We appreciate your support of this annual event, which will return next season.

Now is the time to mark your calendars for
The Valentine's Day Dinner Dance
Thursday, February 15, 2018

Billy Dean and Dawn will entertain us again!

Tickets (\$50 each) go on sale at all weekend Masses beginning Saturday, January 13.

Frisco's Catering
Open Bar
50/50

More details will follow.

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

**HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP**

**meets
Wednesdays
from 6:30 to 8:00
p.m.**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP**

**meets Sundays
from 6:00 to 8:00
p.m.**

**Groups meet in
the ballroom.**

**See more info in
future bulletins.**

**- Kyle VanDuser,
CYO Social
and Spiritual
Coordinator
kyle@sjecc.com**

Next Magnificat Breakfast is Saturday, January 13 at Holiday Inn Airport, Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers. For more info or to RSVP, please send a \$20 check, payable to Magnificat Fort Myers, to Joanne Tarantino, 7768 Jewel Lane, Unit 102, Naples, FL 34109, 239.200.8592, or Barbara Tay, 20230 Burnside Place #1703, Estero, FL 33928, 646.296.2335. Reservations must be postmarked by January 5.

Winter 2018 CYO and CAO Arts and Music Classes

We are offering the following classes starting next January. Please register as soon as possible to ensure that your class of interest is offered.

CYO:

- Piano 1 Saturdays at Noon beginning Jan. 13
- Piano 2 Saturdays at 10am beginning Jan. 13
- Strings Tuesdays at 4:30pm beginning Jan. 9
- Singing/Vocal Program Fridays at 4:45pm beginning Jan. 12
- Guitar Saturdays at noon beginning Jan. 13
- Ballroom Dance Wednesday's at 4pm beginning Jan. 10
- Theater and Acting Saturdays at 10am beginning Jan. 13
- Improv Comedy Monday's at 6:45pm beginning Jan. 8
- Art and Painting for Elementary Age students Saturdays at 9am beginning Jan. 9
- Voice Saturdays at 10am beginning Jan. 13
- Art and Painting for Middle/High School Age Students Saturdays at 10:30am beginning Jan. 13



CAO:

- Strings Program Tuesdays at 5pm beginning Jan. 9
- Vocal/Cantor Program Friday's at 5:45pm beginning Jan. 12
- Guitar Saturdays at 1:00pm beginning Jan. 13
- Ballroom Dance Wednesday's at 5pm beginning Jan. 10
- Improv Comedy Monday's at 7:45pm beginning Jan. 8
- Art and Painting Saturdays at noon beginning Jan. 13
- Voice Saturdays at 10am beginning Jan. 13



**Register online on our website: www.sjecc.com or at the Parish Office!
Don't miss out on these special Winter classes offered just for you!**

Email jennine@sjecc.com for more information.

Save the Date!

OPEN HOUSE ~ Jan. 28

Tour our beautiful, state-of-the-art campus and meet teachers, staff, parents and students from PK3 through Grade 8.

Refreshments served.

Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 11:00am to 1:00pm



Saint Ann Catholic School

(239) 262-4110

[facebook.com/Saint Ann School](https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnSchool) ~ www.stann.net

Excellence in Education of Spirit, Mind, and Body Since 1956!

BIG BAND DANCE

EVERYONE WELCOME!

First Dance of the Season

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist PLC

Doors open at 6:00 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*

Big Band Dance Schedule:

**Tuesday, January 23 • Tuesday, February 13 • Tuesday, March 20
• Tuesday, March 28 • Tuesday, April 10**

Lite dinner
food
available at
reasonable
prices

**Singles
Tables
Available**

*For Reservations
(table of 8
or 10 only)
CONTACT:
239.821.9395
Prepayment
Required*

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR:
SOCK HOP
JANUARY 26,
2018**



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
~ \$4.00

Dress: Country
Club Casual
(No shorts
please.)

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

PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION TODAY

Character Education Through Sports
learn more at: playlikeachampion.org

COACH & PARENT WORKSHOPS

for St. John Evangelist CYO at
St. John the Evangelist
625 111th Avenue North
Naples, FL 34108

Saturday
January 27, 2018

Coach Clinic
11:45am - 2:45pm

Coach Commissioning
Mass 3pm

Sport Parent Workshop
4:00pm - 5:15pm

Location:
Rome Room for Coach &
Parent Workshops
Church for the
Commissioning Mass

RSVP to:
kyle@sjecc.com

Play Like a Champion Today provides leadership in a worldwide effort to renew the culture of sport for youth. It does this primarily by educating ethically responsible sport leaders—coaches, parents, students, and athletic administrators—who in turn will reach millions of young people.

COACHING AS MINISTRY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Crafted by leaders in the fields of sports psychology, coaching education, Catholic theology, and moral development, *Play Like a Champion Today* is:

- Centered around the principles of justice, tolerance, respect, and solidarity
- Designed using the best athlete-centered practices supported by research into character development and faith formation through sports
- Originating at the University of Notre Dame and collaborating with concerned faculty and coaches throughout the country

Play Like a Champion Today deals with tough sport issues and supports schools in promoting:

- Athletics as Character-Building for Athletes and Families
- Building Teams as Moral Communities
- Champion-Centered Best Coaching & Parenting Practices
- Sportsmanship
- Responsible Decision Making

Over the course of the clinic, participants will learn about:

- The Spirituality of Sport
- The GROW Approach to Athlete Motivation
- Child and Adolescent Development
- Promoting a Safe Sport Environment
- Strategies for Developing Partnerships Between Coaches & Parents



playlikeachampion.org

plactoday@gmail.com



Catholic Youth Organization

Working with Coaches and Sport Leaders to Shape a Positive Sports Culture for All Young People Since 2006.