



BLESSED POPE JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC CHURCH

13060 Palomino Lane Fort Myers, FL 33912 239-561-2245

fax: 239-561-3713 www.johnxxiii.net e-mail: info@johnxxiii.net

Sunday, January 16th

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses:

Monday-Saturday, 8:00 am
Rosary-7:30 am (Mon.-Sat.)
Divine Mercy after 8 am Mass

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Mass, 4:00 pm
Sunday, 7:15 am, 9:15 am,
11:15 am
Spanish Mass: 1:15 pm first
Sunday each month
Vietnamese Mass: 5:00 pm on
First Sunday of Month

Reconciliation:

Saturday after 8:00 am Mass

First Friday Adoration:

Friday 8:30-9:00 am

Pastor

Rev. Robert Tabbert

FrBob@johnxxiii.net

Parochial Vicars

Rev. Marcin Koziola

MKoziola@johnxxiii.net

Rev. J.Patrick Boyhan M.S.A.

FrPat@johnxxiii.net

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday,
8:00 am-12:00 pm and
1:00- 4:00 pm

Remember to visit the
website or check your
email for the latest
23rd Times
and watch the Hope for
Haiti video and get the
scoop on what they're up
to these days...

Helen & Hope for Haiti



Every time someone leaves it all and goes with God, their lives begin to take on new meaning. The theme is fairly consistent for those who've been through the experience, regardless of what age it occurs. They end up doing something drastically different than what they were trained to do, and they do it with a beginners mind, without expectation. This was the experience of JoAnne Kuehner, Founder & President of Hope for Haiti, an organization dedicated to connecting one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere to one of the wealthiest cities, Naples, FL. Hope for Haiti's mission is to improve the quality of life for the Haitian people, particularly children, through education, nutrition and healthcare. JoAnne, the speaker at today's Mass, took one trip to Haiti 20 years ago and fell in love.

(continued on page 3)

OUR CREDO

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church;

No matter what your current family or marital situation;

No matter what your past or present religious affiliation;

No matter what your personal history, age, background, race or color;

No matter what your self-image or esteem;

You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at Blessed Pope John XXIII Catholic Church!

Sunday, January 16th

Pastoral Team

Business Manager

Holly Atkins
holly@johnxxiii.net

Communications

Director/Webmaster

Damian Hanley
damian@johnxxiii.net

Maintenance

Supervisor

Rob Erp

Dir. of Faith Formation

Chris Biel
chrisdre@johnxxiii.net
239-561-7499

Music Director

Barbara Mendillo
pianomaam@comcast.net
941-639-0027

Youth Minister

Christie Collins
christie@johnxxiii.net
239-561-3022

Bookkeeper

Ana Martinez
ana@johnxxiii.net

Thrift Store Manager

Cynthia Conzatti
bpjthrift@embarqmail.com
239-433-4097

Part-Time

Bookkeeper Assistant

Ivette Janoschka
ivette@johnxxiii.net

Receptionist

MaryAnn Deas
maryann@johnxxiii.net

Office Assistant

Brenda Gregory
brenda@johnxxiii.net

Admin. Assistant

Barbara Lange
blange@johnxxiii.net

Music Minister

Maria Niebuhr
rmdnieb@comcast.net

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 15th

8:00 AM + Mary Jane Dowd by Stephen Dowd
4:00 PM + Joseph Catania by Ann & Robert Steimel

Sunday, January 16th

7:15 AM + Amedeo & Louise Lungaro by the family
9:15 AM + Faustina DeSanctis by Angelo Ceccarelli
11:15 AM + Raymond Cook by Paul & Judy Cook

Monday, January 17th

8:00 AM + Josephine Meyer by her friends of Terrace 1 at Cross Creek

Tuesday, January 18th

8:00 AM + Charlie Mottram by James

Wednesday, January 19th

8:00 AM + Living & Deceased Parishioners of Blessed Pope John XXIII

Thursday, January 20th

8:00 AM + Mr. Luis by John Landau

Friday, January 21st

8:00 AM + Mr. Luis by John Landau

Saturday, January 22nd

8:00 AM + Mr. Luis by John Landau
4:00 PM + Nancy Burck by Mike & Carmel Leannah

Sunday, January 23rd

7:15 AM + Pat Fahey by his family
9:15 AM + James McGirr by his wife
11:15 AM + Rebecca Hickey by Tony & Lori Gravatte

*The 2011 Mass Book will be open
from January to September.*

MINISTER SCHEDULE JANUARY 22ND & 23RD

Saturday, 4:00 PM

LECTORS: D. Koch, B. Kohlbecker, M. Lancellot
ALTAR SERVER: C. Munizza, K. Losardo, M. Losardo

Sunday, 7:15 AM

LECTORS: V. Knipfing, D. Tousey, D. Tousey
ALTAR SERVER: Open to Volunteers

Sunday, 9:15 AM

LECTORS: J. Fernandez, C. Lazo, W. King
ALTAR SERVER: V. Wall, D. Crane, J. Gamba

Sunday, 11:15 AM

LECTORS: J. Glowacki, J. McGrail, T. Simmons
ALTAR SERVER: A. Krutky, M. Iwinski, W. Ward

PARISH CALENDAR

■ Saturday January 15

Beef O'Brady's Fundraiser 4-9:00 pm
Vietnamese Dinner 5:00 or 6:30 pm

■ Sunday January 16

Rite of Acceptance 9:15 am
Women's Guild Officer Installation
during 11:15 Mass
WG Communion Breakfast 12:15 pm
High School Youth Group 7:30 pm

■ Monday January 17

Men's Gospel Forum 7:00 am
Women's Guild 6:30-8:30 pm

■ Tuesday January 18

Bereavement 1:00-3:00 pm
Cub Scouts 5:30-6:30 pm
Boy Scouts 7:00-8:15 pm
Always Our Children 7:00-9:00 pm

■ Wednesday January 19

Blessed Little Angels 10-noon
FF/EDGE 4:00-7:30
RCIA 7:30-9:00 pm

■ Thursday January 20

Bldg. & Grounds 8:45 am
Choir 6:30-8:30 pm
Into the Fields 6:00-9:00 pm
Faith & Ale 6:00-8:00 pm

■ Friday January 21

■ Saturday January 22

1st Reconciliation 10:00-noon
Prayer Walk at abortion clinic off
Broadway Ave. 9:15-10:00 am
Beef O'Brady's Fundraiser 4-9:00 pm
Couples Night 5:15 pm

■ Sunday January 23

RCIA 10:30 am
High School Youth Group 7:30 pm



Next Safe Environment Training
Thursday, Feb 3rd 6:00 -8:00 pm or
Saturday, Feb 5th 9:30- 11:30 am

*Check the website
for a complete calendar.*

www.johnxxiii.net/parishcalendar.html

Last week, we read the Matthaean version of Jesus' baptism by John. Here we read another version, by an evangelist writing from a different tradition than did Matthew, Mark or Luke. We see, however, significant similarities. Remember, John the Baptizer had been referred to in the Prologue, only 14 verses earlier. More importantly, the Fourth Evangelist wants there to be no uncertainty that 1) John was the precursor of Jesus and proclaimed Him as God's Chosen One (see first reading); and 2) while John baptized with water, Jesus would baptize with the Spirit. He testified to the fact that he saw the Spirit come down from

Heaven "like a dove" and rest on Jesus; and, further, he had been instructed by God that this was the way the Messiah would be recognized. Thus the Evangelist begins his account of the Lord in a way that leaves no questions about who he is talking about. It is from readings like this that the Church understands the effect of Baptism. As it is a rite of initiation into the People of God, it also brings the Spirit into our lives. This is how we, too, should be recognized, as those whose lives reflect the presence of the Holy Spirit, in bringing the Gospel to everyone through our daily actions in the marketplace, neighborhood and families.

Some facts about Hope for Haiti...

- **Supports 37 schools, with 500 teachers and 12,000 children, in a country with 50% illiteracy.**
- **According to the most recent World Bank Haitian Education Report, public schools can accommodate less than 10 percent of the school age population in Haiti.**
- **Provides in-kind donations of school supplies, soccer balls, first-aid care and playground equipment.**
- **Supports four nutrition clinics, which save the lives of over 5,000 children per year who are suffering from malnutrition.**
- **Nutrition clinics provide education on critical life-saving information to mothers and fathers regarding the health of their children.**
- **Provides financial and medical support to over 60 healthcare and nutrition centers, touching the lives of over 500,000 people.**
- **Over the last 10 years, they've provided over \$40,000,000 in aid, fifteen of which went directly to medications and medical supplies.**
- **Four Star Rating from Charity Navigator, the preeminent independent evaluator of charities.**



Hope for Haiti provides evening courses in sustainable agriculture. When trees are taken off the hillside for burning, they are replenished with roughage.

“In the classrooms, the students are so close together their shoulders touch... our kids would have something to say about that.”

-JoAnne

Hope for Haiti partner schools receive financial funding for teacher salaries and often support for specific community or classroom needs (i.e. construction, school materials, benches/blackboards, children's shoes/clothing, first aid supplies, clean water, etc...). The Haitian education system is a continual challenge, but Hope for Haiti is dedicated to working to improve the quality and access for the Haitian children. Hope for Haiti believes in partnerships and collaboration, most importantly in the area of education. They work to bring other organizations together who are in the education field to avoid overlap and wasted resources and to encourage non-profit organizations, community leaders, and government representatives to work together.

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This Week in Faith Formation

- **Faith Formation meets again on Wednesday Jan 19.**
- **Back by popular demand! Attention ladies, Mark your calendars now for Sarah Hart; March 25 (concert) and March 26 Conference. Sarah Hart is a Catholic singer and songwriter. This event is a collaboration of area parishes. Watch upcoming bulletins for details.**
- **Sat, Jan. 22nd Blessed Pope John XXIII's Marriage Enrichment Ministry Presents "Strengthening the Treasure in Your Marriage" following the 4:00 Mass (5:15 – 6:15 pm) in the Church Community Room. Please RSVP to Chris at 561-7499.**



Disclaimer

Performance will NOT take place in an enchanted forest, although attendees have reported feelings of enchantment during Sarah Hart performances.

Sacrament Preparation

Sacrament Preparation programs are a minimum of two consecutive years. In year I students must be enrolled in our Faith Formation, EDGE or High School Youth programs. During year II of formation additional classes are held specific to the Sacraments your child is preparing to receive. After the celebration of the sacraments, catechesis and ongoing conversion carries on through participation in our Faith Formation programs in the years that follow up to grade 12. Your family must be registered and actively participating in the parish.

Confirmation

Candidates must complete 2 consecutive years of preparation beginning in the 9th grade, in order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the end of the 10th grade. Your family must be registered and actively participating in the parish for a period of 3 months prior to the beginning of classes. Registration is done through the Faith Formation office.

Diocesan Catholic & Home School Students

Diocesan Catholic School & home school students, who wish to receive their sacraments at Blessed Pope John XXIII Church, are required to register and attend Sacrament classes only. (Their faith formation obligation is met through their school/home religion class.) If you plan to home school your child, you must still register in our home school program for two years. The approved Catholic schools in the Diocese of Venice are St. Francis Xavier, St. Andrew, and Bishop Verot High School.

The Red Box

Thanks for your help with the diaper drive! It was very successful, raising over 2,000 diapers for the moms in need at the Ft. Myers Pregnancy Center!

EDGE (Middle) Wednesday nights 6:00pm - 7:15 pm

This week: *Off-campus Social*

Didn't get the semester newsletter yet? Have your child ask for it at the meeting, or contact Christie. It's important!

Check us out on Facebook (Blessed Pope EDGE), Twitter @bpj23_YM, and the web johnxxiii.net/youthministry.html.

HS Youth Group | Sunday nights 7:30pm - 9:00 pm

This Sunday night: *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*

Next Week, January 16th *How to Save a Life*

Interested in going to the March for Life in Washington, DC overnight, January 23 – 24? Contact Christie today!

Didn't get the semester newsletter yet? Have your child ask for it at the meeting, or contact Christie. It's important!

Check us out on Facebook (Blessed Pope Youth Group), Twitter @bpj23_YM, and the web johnxxiii.net/youthministry.html.

St. John Bosco, pray for us!

Christie Collins

Youth Minister
239-561-3022 office
864-735-7572 cell
Christie@johnxxiii.net

March for Life

Education & Defense Fund

Youth Need Your Help to Get to D.C.! The high school youth are taking a trip to Washington, D.C., for the March for Life January 23-24. They will get a chance to march peacefully to the Supreme Court with 200,000 people, including many teens and college students, to protest the losses in their generation and calling for an overturning of Roe v. Wade. The trip costs \$335.00 and covers travel, hotel, a Catholic youth rally, and metro costs.

Can you help? Sponsor a teen partially or entirely – every little bit is one step closer to Washington!

Please contact Christie Collins at (239) 561-3022 or [**Christie@johnxxiii.net**](mailto:Christie@johnxxiii.net).

New Parish Library

We've recently launched our Parish Lending Library cart in the Narthex of the Church. What was the Parish Book Drop Off Cart in this New Year is now the Parish Lending Library. Approximately 100 donated books have been processed as a lending library. Know that we are very aware of our responsibility to our worshipping community and its spiritual development and invite any concerns and comments about our choices for this library. Thanks for your support. Keep us in your prayers.

We also want to extend a big THANK YOU to

Lori Izral

for taking on the massive responsibility of organizing and administering our new library. Thanks Lori!

**Women's Guild
Annual Fashion Show
& Luncheon
\$25.00
March 12, 2011
Colonial Country Club
Tickets are now available
in the Parish Office.**



Who is this woman?

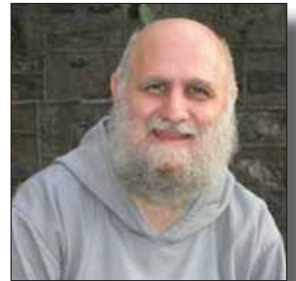
That's On, daughter-in-law to Marcia Weis, our Thrift Store's clothing smuggler to Thailand. She's sitting amongst 100 lbs of clothing that will go to recent refugees from Burma, who live in her community.

Once again, THANK YOU to all the good people at this Parish who make donations and end up doing good on the other side of the planet.



General Announcements

- Bishop Verot Catholic High School will be hosting an **Open House on Tuesday, January 25th at 7pm** for prospective students and their families. Experience what it's like to be a student at Bishop Verot- sit in on a class in progress, participate in a DNA Biotechnology Lab, hear about how we send 99% of our students to college with over \$6.5 million in college scholarships each year, and more! The evening will conclude with an Activities and Athletics fair in the Nevins Gymnasium. Questions regarding the Open House or the admissions process can be directed to Deanna Breen, at (239) 274-6760 or by emailing deanna.breen@bvhs.org.
- Monday Jan. 17th 2011 **A RETREAT DAY at ST KATHERINE DREXEL with Fr Andrew Apostolic**, CFR at 9 A.M. Fr Andrew is a founding priest of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, along with Fr. Benedict Groeschel and Fr Stan Fortuna. He is also a retreat master who has written many books and regularly appears on EWTN. He will celebrate Mass at 9 (AM) . He will speak on Fatima which is his area of expertise. Please stay for Lunch at St Katherine Drexel Parish Hall 1922 S.W. 20th Ave. Cape Coral FL 33991 .



Always Our Children

Always Our Children, our parish support group for families with gay children, relatives and/or friends, will resume monthly meetings on

January 18th at 7:00 p.m.

in the conference room of the parish office. Our plan is to meet regularly on the third Tuesday of each month thereafter - same time - same place. At a time when bullying and other hurtful and harmful events are taking place against our GLBT children, we want to reinforce the deep love of Christ for all His brothers and sisters.

Let one of our New Year resolutions be that we will continue to foster respect for life, friendship and justice for all. Happy New Year!

For information call Paula at 561-5720

Abortion Clinic Prayer Walk

4th Saturday Each Month at 9:15am
3900 Broadway Blvd., Building C
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Respect Life

Statement of the Catholic Bishops of Florida on the 38th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

January 22, 2011

The first Sunday in October, since 1972, has been set aside by the Catholic bishops in the United States to pray for a culture of life and an end to abortion. While surveys show there is growing support for strict limits on the availability of abortion, unborn babies are still dying from chemical and surgical procedures that sometimes cause the death of the mother. We are grateful for the decline in numbers to 82,000 reported abortions in Florida for 2009 but we grieve over even one untimely death of one of God's creations, a unique and irreplaceable human being.

We are concerned about the growing chorus of voices in society, even among the young people in our church, who reject Church teaching about marriage as the proper union where one man and one woman form a lifelong partnership for the procreation and education of offspring. The current infatuation with sex as a recreational activity with little thought about the person that could be created through the sexual union only perpetuates abortion as a bad solution for what is referred to as a "problem pregnancy." Pornography, sexting, prostitution and other ills distort the sexuality with which God endowed humanity for the expression of mutual self-giving love and perpetuation of the human race.

For a pregnant woman at any stage of life who needs emotional or material assistance for her and her unborn child, the church offers help through crisis pregnancy centers and parish programs such as Gabriel Project. The growth of 40 Days for Life is proof that people are willing and able to help others choose life over the culture of death.

There are people who suffer from guilt and separation from the Church because of participation in an abortion at some point in their life. Healing and God's love, mercy and compassion are there for those who seek confession for what one may feel is an "unforgivable sin." Project Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard, nationally recognized post-abortion programs approved by the Catholic Church, offer a confidential process for healing and reconciliation. The fundamental human right, the presupposition of every other right, is the right to life itself. This is true of life from the moment of conception until its natural end. Abortion, consequently, cannot be a human right—it is the very opposite. (cf. Pope Benedict XVI, 2007 address to Austrian diplomatic corps).

We pray that our great nation will come back to its founding principles, the first of which is that we are all created equal, endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights, the most important being the right to life.

PROJECT RACHEL – CALL TOLL FREE 888-456-4673

<http://hopeafterabortion.com>



PRAYERS LIST

Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally or spiritually, especially:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Carol Young | Angeline Bennett |
| Ann Kibelbek | Sr. Antonilla Korte |
| Charles Chouiniere | Dave Linde |
| Hannah Grant | Tina Tovar Dias |
| Michael Paul Wayne | Robert Gould |
| Stephen Lane, Jr. | Bill Becker |
| Susan Madda | Vincent Galati |
| Gloria Ribas-Schultz | Bob Carroll |
| David Jones | Peter Duguay |
| Bridget Lawrence | Judy Ann Meidinger |
| Dennis Cosgrove, Jr. | Patrick Dooley |
| Joanna Dubos | Jacqueline M. Johnson |
| Paul Hollenback Jr. & Family | Kathleen Einspahn |
| Donald Gilmore | Ryan Joseph Carswell |
| Justine Vidrine | Crist Knoop |
| Steven Roosa | Hillary Jacobs |
| Bennett Luechtefeld | Bob Horlander |
| John Mangione | Leonard Reagan |
| Carmela Elderkin | Hunter Haymore |
| Maureen Gilmore | Fred Spring |
| Carol Morales | Cayela Cuevas |
| Tyler Fenniger | Ben Zannini |
| Jacci Johnson | Luis Raul Montalvo |
| Gordon Kohl | Liane Shorten |
| Maverick Steiner | Lloyd Kollasch |
| Bob Stevenson | John Perillo |
| John P. | Linda Sayres |
| Terry O'Flynn | Bill Callahan |
| Mary DeFeo | Robert Watson |
| Joe Williams | Samantha Ricciuti |
| David Neumer | Anthony Colucci |
| Sebastian Boucher | |

Please contact the Parish office if you wish to have the name of someone listed for four weeks. As a courtesy please notify the office when the name can be removed or if you wish to continue for another four weeks.

Please Pray for those who have recently entered eternal life

Jack Owen
Betty Erp (mother of Rob Erp)

TABERNACLE CANDLE

This week in memory of
Mary Jane Dowd
requested by her husband, Stephen

This candle may be sponsored for a living or deceased loved one. Contact the parish office to check on available weeks.

New Ministry

Due to the condition of the world in which we live, there's a need for a larger scale, more organized method of praying for loved ones at Blessed Pope John XXIII. This new ministry fills that need, and it's called...

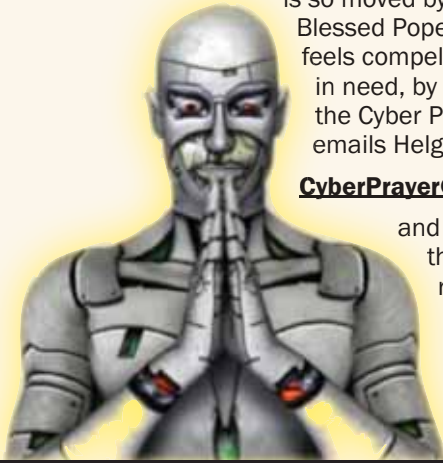
Cyberprayer!

Here's how it works. John Doe's wife is ill and desperately needs prayers. He consults with Jane, and she says "Yes that's all well and good, but the bulletin prayer list only makes it in front of people once a week. I need daily prayers! I'm really sick here, can't you see?" With her permission, John emails Helgi at CyberPrayer@PopeJohn23.net and Jane is put on a list of people who are notified by Helgi when new prayer recipients come in.

Jim Doe (unrelated to the aforementioned Doe family) is so moved by his experience at Blessed Pope John XXIII, that he feels compelled to pray for those in need, by name, as part of the Cyber Prayer ministry. So he emails Helgi at

CyberPrayer@PopeJohn23.net

and asks to be put on the list of people who receive periodic emails with names of people who desperately need prayers.



Faith & Ale

FAITH AND ALE is a very informal, monthly gathering of Catholic men. We meet from October – May for food, refreshments (\$10 donation) and camaraderie, followed by an inspirational speaker. We meet at the Parish Center at the Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord in Fort Myers. Men of all ages and parishes are invited to attend!

The next event is on **Thursday, January 20, 2011 from 6-8 PM**. We are honored to have Bishop Frank Dewane as our guest speaker. After some brief opening comments he will open up the floor to any and all questions from the audience. So, plan on bringing what's on your mind as well as a friend....for some Faith & Ale!

You will need to register for this event by sending an email to **FaihandAleFtMyers@gmail.com**

For more information visit **www.faihandale.com** or call Mike Lancellot at 239-940-7580.

PRAYERS FOR OUR HEROES

PFC Andrew Kanopkh, Afghanistan
Son of Bobby Kanopkh; Grandson of Helen Crane

A1C, Julie Kurdi, USAF, Iraq
Daughter of Laura Fiore; Niece of Donna & Vincent Fiore

Master Sgt. David Neumer/Army Special Forces, wounded in Afghanistan, Cousin of Joanne Walsh.

Sgt. Phil Dellibovi, Bagram, Afghanistan
Brother-in-law of Cindy Costa

Staff Sgt Jeffrey K. Green , Air Force, Mountain Home, ID
Son of Margaret Evans

Staff Sgt. Chris Dominski, NCOIC Air Defense, Aerospace Mgt. Team, NYARNG 27th IBCT

Staff Sgt. Shaun McBride, Afghanistan

Richard Tahaes, Special Forces, Iraq
Grandson of Gerald & Lillian Snyder

2nd Lt. Paige Hortman, US Air Force, Maguire AFB, NJ
Niece of Peter & Marilyn Savalli

Dennis Logue, Jr., Afghanistan

Rec. Ted Friederichs
Grandson of Nick & Pat Piegaro

Mary Cassidy, Afghanistan
Niece of Jim & Kathy Cassidy

Lt. Commander Matthew Frey, Navy, Afghanistan
Godson of Barbara & Bill Catineau

Cpl. Thomas Raney, US Army, Iraq
Grandson of Bill & Barbara Raney

Cpt. Lindsey Amber Chen US Air Force, Korea & Qatar
Niece of Nancy Paladino

PFC Kathleen Hudepohl, Fort Sills, OK
Grandaughter of Ron & Cecilia Hudepohl

PFC Jared Gaudet, FortBragg, NC
Nephew of Rick & June Katorincek

2nd Lt. Andrew Duguay, US Airforce, Laughlin AFB, TX
Grandson of Peter & Midge Duguay

Ryan Baity, Marine Recruit, Parris Island, SC
Grandson of Dan & Judi Weller

Master Sergeant Peter Parison, 101st Airborn
Grandson of Mary Leary

LCPL Michael Zach
Nephew of Judy Grohs

Lt. Ross Walker, US Navy, Afghanistan
Nephew of Nancy Fahey

LCPL Cook USMC - Cherry Point NC
Son of Rosie & Martin Cook

PFC Michael P Hughes Afghanistan
Nephew of Rosie & Martin Cook

Army First Lieutenant Bradley D. Laux, Afghanistan
Brother of Jason Laux

Catholic Charities' Success

Catholic Charities, District II, contributed Christmas presents to 577 families in Lee, Hendry, and Glades counties. Gifts included age appropriate toys, clothing, diapers and almost 200 bicycles! "The spirit of giving at Christmas, through the generosity of our parishioners, has been a truly heartfelt experience in my first year at Catholic Charities" according to district director, Roseann Albertario.

Kudos go to Catholic Charities employees at all of our offices: Elizabeth K. Galeana Center, Clare House/ Haitian Center, and Bonita Springs. Catholic Charities employees and volunteers have devoted countless hours to the coordination and distribution of Christmas gifts. The attention to detail, whereby we insure that every child registered receives a minimum of three gifts, is an arduous process. Each office has the procedure down to a science; watching the process unfold is truly like visiting the North Pole. During the month of December at Catholic Charities, we all become Santa's elves!

On behalf of the hundreds of wide-eyed, happy children, who enjoyed a brighter Christmas this year, "Thank you." The generous response of the parishes to the Angel Tree program is a true blessing in these challenging economic times. Catholic Charities looks forward to a bright New Year as we continue to serve individuals and families throughout Southwest Florida.



Magnificat Breakfast

All women are invited to a breakfast sponsored by Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women. The breakfast will be held

Saturday, January 29, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Spanish Wells Golf and Country Club,
9801 Treasure Cay Ln., Bonita Springs.

Our speaker is Sylvia Jimenez, a native of Lee County.

Please send a \$20 check payable to Magnificat Ft. Myers to Joanne Tarantino, 16550 Heron Coach Way #206, Ft. Myers 33908, 481-6967, or

Rose Ann Manzoni, 3660 Stone Way, Estero, FL 33928, 498-5494. Requests must be postmarked by January 22.

Welcome Newly Registered Parishioners!

286 families joined
Blessed Pope John
in 2010! Wow!

Doug & Marcie Fortunato
Donna Panzica

May the wind be always at your back, blowing you in the direction of our Parish.

All new parishioners and those interested in registering in our Parish are invited to attend the New Parishioner Orientation; **the next one is scheduled for February 20th following the 11:15 Mass.** This is your opportunity to become informed and active members of the Parish and participate in our various ministries.

Registering at Blessed Pope John XXIII is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community.

Please let the parish office know your email address OR you can even update it on the Parish Website!

www.johnxxiii.net

Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, Baptisms or serve as sponsors for Confirmation, or Baptism request a letter stating that they are parishioners. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to stewardship of time, talent and treasure. One means of verifying participation is through the use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish, or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory basket. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

RCA
(Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

What do Catholics believe?
How does someone become Catholic?

Our inquiry sessions are ongoing
Call Barbara at 275-6454 or
Chris at 561-7499. We'd love to have you!

Bereavement

Tuesdays from 1:00-3:00 pm in the
Church Community Room



presents

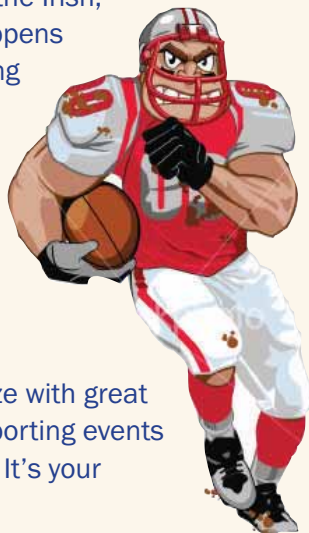
A month of Saturdays

a fundraiser to benefit

BLESSED POPE JOHN XXIII CATHOLIC CHURCH

Here's how it works!

- Every Saturday in the month of January, beginning on the 8th, Beef O'Bradys at Fiddlesticks Crossing will take 20% of all Blessed Pope John's Parishioners' checks and donate it back to the Parish.
- Simply advise your server that you're from Blessed Pope John XXIII and your check will be rung under a different account.
- Maybe it's the luck of the Irish, but their food also happens to be delicious! So bring your family, bring your friends, why not bring people you have yet to make up your mind about and share a meal with them?
- Eat great food, socialize with great people, watch great sporting events or Miami Heat games! It's your choice!



OFFERTORY COLLECTION

January 9th, 2011

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Offertory | \$30,015 |
| Building Fund | <u>\$8,905</u> |
| Total | \$38,921 |

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Registered | |
| # of Families | 2092 |
| Per Person | \$18.60 |
| Mass Attendance | 3439 |

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| CFA Goal | \$387,000 |
| Pledged | \$569,888 |
| As % of Goal | 147.26% |
| % of Households | 34.07% |
| Paid to Date | \$565,933 |

Thank you for your continued generosity!

God's Plan...

...was set into motion when you emerged from the womb. Wouldn't you like to know more about the specific strengths and talents you were given by God?

If so, pay attention next weekend when Steve Engleman introduces our new Inner Strengths ministry before each Mass. Then, if the subject does peak your interest, look for more information in the nathex or in next week's bulletin. There's never a shortage of great information in here!

IRS Tax Request Statements

Statements will automatically be sent to all who have donated \$250 or more to Blessed Pope John XXIII Catholic Church. Please allow until the end of February for the statements to arrive. If you donated less than \$250 and would like a statement, please call the parish office at 561-2245.

Catholic Faith Appeal

The Diocese of Venice will send out statements for all who contributed \$250 or more to the CFA. If you don't receive one or have any questions please contact the Diocese at 941-484-9543.

Ever wonder what it is our Women's Guild does?

WE DONATED...

- \$3750 Scholarships to Bishop Verot Students
- \$1620 Housekeeping for a parishioner family caring for their ill child at home
- \$1000 Hope for Haiti
- \$942 Ft. Myers Pregnancy Center
- \$500 Soles for Souls to purchase sneakers for needy children
- \$1300 Holiday Food Baskets & Food Pantry
- \$600 Care packages to our parishioners serving in the military
- \$308 Purchased Bibles with the Knight's of Columbus for RCIA candidates
- \$250 Sponsor ad for CFA Dinner Dance
- \$500 Purchased Christmas gifts for families in need (member financed)
- \$500 To Social Justice for families in need



WE ACCOMPLISHED...

- Hosted a Fashion Show
- Hosted a Craft Fair
- Hosted two Bake Sales
- Co-hosted a Mardi Gras Dinner Dance with the Knights of Columbus
- Co-hosted a Spaghetti Dinner with the Knights of Columbus
- Lent collection for our soldiers & delivery of food to local Veterans.
- Participated in Belk's Charity fund raiser in the Spring/Fall
- Sold BPJ shirts
- Collected membership dues /Held 50/50 raffles at our Guild Meetings



WE ENHANCE OUR COMMUNITY'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH...

- Co-hosted a fellowship night on a "Sunset Cruise" with the Knights of Columbus
- Hosted a Communion Breakfast
- Promoted Lenten/Advent inspirational books
- Supported the Youth Ministry by assisting with their Babysitting Bonanza.
- Hosted receptions for: First Holy Communion, Easter Vigil, & Funeral Masses
- Provided refreshments for weekly RCIA meetings & Veteran's Day celebration
- Assisted parishioners to doctor's appointments & cleaning/packing up home furnishings

And through our commitment to each other, our friendships and activities like our Women of the Bible Reflection Group...

...we're committed to the spiritual development of ALL our members. When we can more fully know the love of Christ, we can more fully see His face in others...

Your Marriage is a Treasure to be Cherished



"For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart"
-Matthew 6:21

Blessed Pope John Marriage Enrichment Team | Save The Date!

"Discovering the Treasure in Your Marriage" Sat., Jan. 8th 5:15 – 6:15pm

Join other married couples for a fun and informal gathering. We will be talking a walk down memory lanes as we look to rediscover the treasure that is our marriage. Be prepared to laugh and reflect on your journey as a couple.

Preregistered childcare is provided.

"Strengthening the Treasure in Your Marriage" Sat, Jan. 22nd 5:15 – 6:15 pm

Enjoy a relaxing hour with other married couples as we focus on creative ideas for strengthening our marriages. You will leave with ways to increase you marriage "treasure" now and in the future. Preregistered childcare is provided.

"Enriching the Treasure in Your Marriage" Sat., Feb. 12th 6:30-9:00 PM (Valentine Dinner Location to be Determined)

Celebrate Valentine's Day by enjoying a wonderful dinner and a motivational presentation. Your marriage is a treasure to be cherished – help enrich the journey with this evening. Cost and more details will be provided soon!

All events are held in the Church Community Room

To register for these events return this form to the parish office or drop in the collection basket.

Names: _____

Phone Number: _____ **Email:** _____

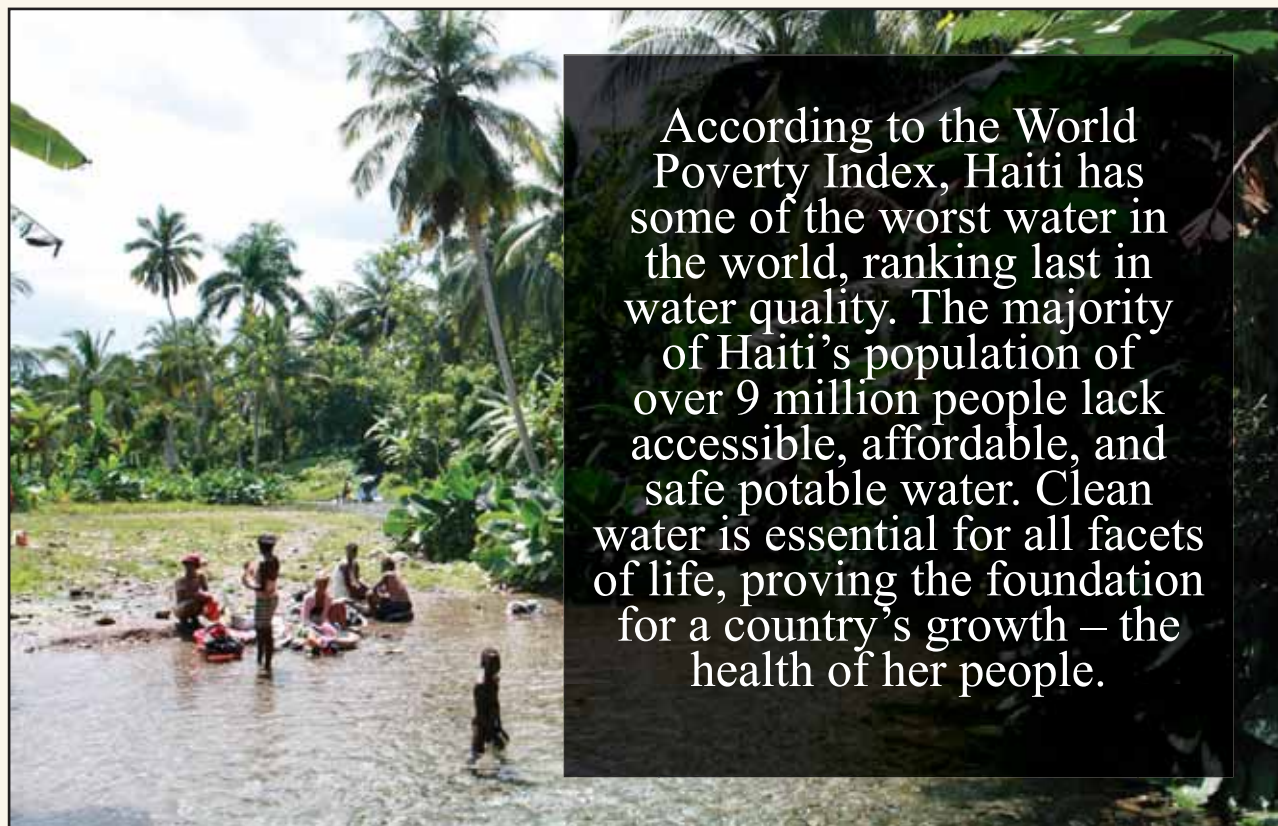
We will attend _____ **January 22nd, Strengthening the Treasure in Your Marriage**

Helen & Hope for Haiti continued

It is through partnerships that Hope for Haiti can receive the most return from donors' investments by challenging organizations working within the Haitian education system at all levels to join forces towards a common goal of improvement and success. This challenge is where Hope for Haiti has seen the most progress made in providing the environment for non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and the community to solve the problems together.

(Below) **The creek, a source of fresh water, lies a half-mile outside the village of Tete Source, a community served by Hope for Haiti. The creek serves as a place for bathing, swimming and a source for drinking water. Transporting water from the creek into the village provides opportunities for employment for the young, willing and strong.**

(Right) **A village horse poses alongside benches made by local carpenters.**



Helen & Hope for Haiti continued



www.hopeforhaiti.com

What are some of the challenges within the education system that Hope for Haiti is working to address?

- **Teachers:** The overwhelming majority of Haitian primary and secondary teachers are poorly qualified in both private and public schools. Often the teachers are not only unqualified but also face extremely difficult work environments, with little to no access to school materials and very inadequate salaries.
- **Facilities:** It is well acknowledged that the Haitian education system is far below International standards and that the majority of school “facilities” are beyond inadequate to provide a suitable learning environment. School structures range from being made out of coconut and banana leaves to corrugated metal roofs and concrete blocks. Many lack electricity, bathrooms, clean water, food, first aid, benches, chalkboards, and daily classroom necessities.
- **Overage Students:** With little to no oversight in education on a government level mixed with abject poverty, schools face a problem with overage students in classes. In Haiti it is not unlikely to graduate High School in your early to mid 20s. This is a testament to both the poor quality and lack of access to education that families and schools must face.
- **No Standards:** The Ministry of Education unfortunately operates with a bare minimum requirement for quality standards. There is little to no school monitoring or evaluation from outside parties to offer assistance or guidelines for improvement.
- **Access:** Haiti is still incapable of educating over 50% of her school aged children – an enormous number of boys and girls with no hopes of receiving even the most basic of education.

One donor, a woman dedicated to the improvement and success of Haiti, was our own Helen Mark, turn the page to read more...

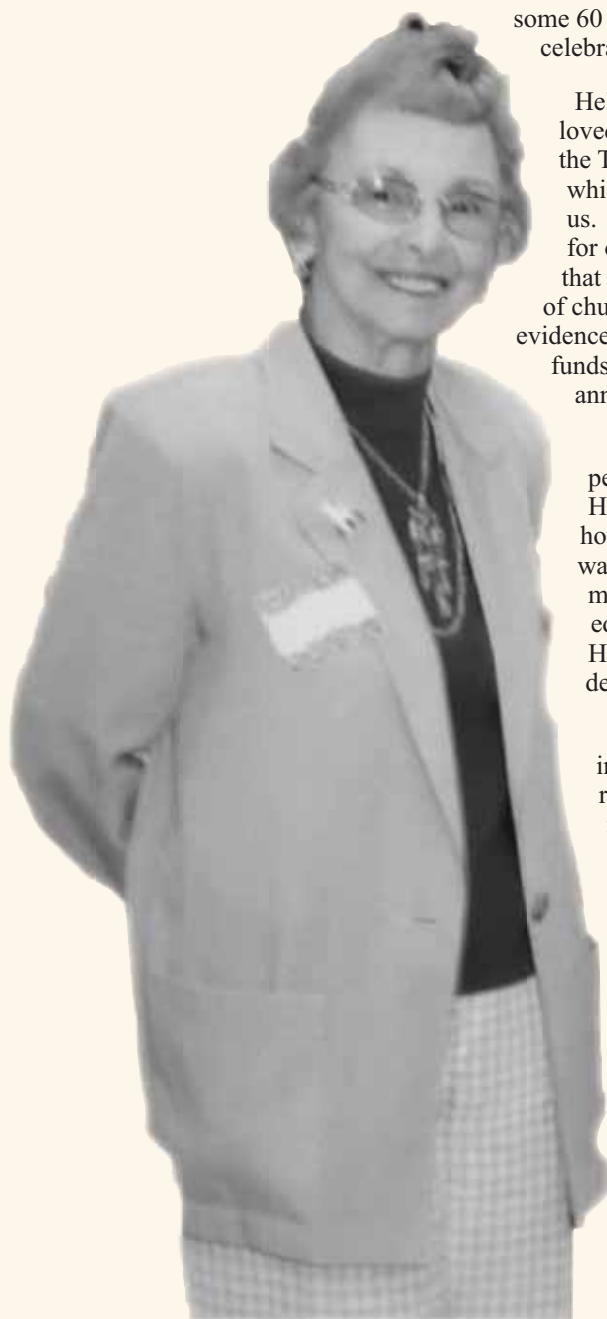
Helen & Hope for Haiti continued

Helen Mark & The Helen Mark Haiti Fund

by Sandy Szymanski

“In quietness and confidence shall be your strength” [Isaiah 30] is the Scriptural passage that first comes to mind when I think of Helen Mark. Helen was a remarkable woman – with a heart much bigger than her small and dainty stature could possibly hold.

One of my most vivid memories of Helen was when she spoke to the members of our Women’s Guild. She held everyone’s attention as she retold stories of her nursing career as a U. S. Army WAC, especially those encountered on her arrival at the Scofield Barracks on Oahu, Hawaii shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor during World War II. What was even more awesome was seeing Helen in her WAC uniform some 60 years after she first wore it. She loved her Country and proudly celebrated every opportunity that paid honor to its Veterans.



Helen was a founding member of Blessed Pope John XXIII and loved her Faith Community as well. She was a devoted volunteer at the Thrift Store. She was the main force of our telephone committee which, in our early days, was the primary networking available to us. Helen was the first to coordinate a campaign to provide packages for our Armed Forces Overseas and our Women’s Guild maintains that campaign during the month of February. She loved the sound of church bells and believed that they echoed the Gospel message evidenced in a faith community. To that end, Helen generously donated funds to secure the carillon bells for our faith community as an announcement of our credo - “All Are Welcome!”

Again, in quietness and confidence Helen reached out to the people of Haiti. She became involved with the Naples organization, Hope for Haiti, and provided funding for the construction of basic housing for the poorest of families. Helen believed that education was the primary means to a better life. To that end, she donated monies for the construction of a school which now provides better education to over 300 primary school students. Unfortunately, Helen died before her scheduled trip to Haiti for the school’s dedication.

Since the January earthquake in Haiti, our parish has become involved with the continuing efforts of Hope for Haiti to provide relief to the thousands of Haitians who were affected by this natural disaster. It was through our involvement that we came to know of Helen’s generosity and belief in the Haitian people.

Hope for Haiti has been working with the local people in Haiti for the last twenty years. Our own Father Bob Tabbert was a founding member of this hands-on organization. For six weeks following the earthquake, members of our Social Justice Ministry transported supplies provided by our parishioners to the office of Hope for Haiti in Naples. During this time, we became very familiar with the good works being accomplished in Haiti. We also were made aware of Helen’s love for the children of Haiti and came to the conclusion that Helen’s efforts should continue forward.

The Helen Mark/Haiti Fund is being proposed as a source of revenue to provide for the continuing education, nutrition,

Helen & Hope for Haiti continued

and healthcare of the Haitian children. We are asking our Parishioners, after thoughtful prayer, to consider making a yearly pledge to fund this campaign. Hope for Haiti has advised us that \$7,000 would supplement the salary of 14 teachers for a school year. An additional \$5,000 would provide services of a Healthcare Worker and a Public Health Program for the children. The pledge amount could be as little as \$25.00 a year or \$25.00 a month. One hundred families pledging \$120 a year would enable us to totally fund both projects.

To learn more about Hope for Haiti and the Helen Mark/Haiti Fund, please contact Sandy Szymanski, Social Justice Chair, at 303-1337 / szysan05@comcast.net.



Tete Source Community Primary School

Tete Source Community Primary School was started in 2000 by Rochel Banatte, who chose to return to his community to start this primary school, knowing that the children of Tete Source had little to no access to an education. The school provides a quality education to over 250 students and receives 100% pass rate on their 6th grade national exam each year. Hope for Haiti also supports the school's teachers in subsidizing their salaries, relieving the burden placed on families to pay school tuition fees. There are six classrooms that were finished in 2009 with the support of buildOn, an international organization focused on empowering local villages through their own development efforts by building schoolhouses in rural communities, and the Loyola Foundation. We are proud to

be working with such a dedicated community who values education and is willing to join together to provide the best they can offer for their children.

Thanks to the passion of the late humanitarian, Helen Mark, the neighboring community of Ravine Sable has not only benefited from her generous support, but also recieved help from another donor that resumed Ms. Mark's commitment last year. The community of Tete Source, however, which is in the area and very similar to Ravine Sable, still has many needs, with education being a top priority. Helen Mark would be proud that the parish of Blessed Pope John XXIII is carrying out one of Hope for Haiti's commitments in her memory.



Diocesan Happenings

- **Catholic Charismatic Commission, Diocese of Venice presents A Day of Renewal “ Embracing Your Cross”** The Day of Renewal will be held on February 5, from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM at Incarnation Catholic Church, located at 2929 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL 34239. The speakers are: Jim Murphy - internationally known speaker and teacher who has served the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in numerous leadership positions on local, national and international levels. Produced Catholic TV programs and has taught at conferences worldwide. He is known for his wisdom and his humor. James “Mike” Wicksall - Director of Diocesan Renewal Office and a member of the Bishop’s liaison team to All Michigan Catholic Charismatic Conference Service Committee. Founder and President of “The Barnabas Message”, a non-profit corporation for the purpose of teaching, preaching, and encouraging the body of Christ. For more information call Bob and Sue Hadley 941-493-7275, or Lois and Gerry Mader 239-267-2684.
- **Communication Department - Collection for the Church in Latin America** - will take place the weekend of Jan.22-23 throughout the Diocese. This collection supports the Church in Latin America through funding of pastoral projects in the areas of evangelization, formation of priests, religious, missionaries, lay people and catechists, with an emphasis in all their work on youth outreach. Your support of this important collection is greatly appreciated.
- Saturday, February 12, 2011 - 11:00 am Bishop Frank J. Dewane will celebrate a **Wedding Anniversary Mass** for married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries (25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, and 50+ years. Reservations may be made through local parishes after January 1, 2011. **Please contact MaryAnn in the Parish Office to sign up, call 561-2245 or email maryann@johnxxiii.net.**
- **Blessed Edmund Rice School for Pastoral Ministry - Spring classes** - The Rice School is accepting enrollment for the Spring 2011 formation classes. Courses last approximately 15 weeks (late January-May). Spring courses include: Sacraments, Gospel of John, Ancient Christian Writers and Vatican II. Evening classes are held in local parishes. For further information including cost and scholarships available, please call The Rice School, 941-766-7334 or www.riceschool.org. To register, please call Jennifer at 941-766-7334, ext. 17.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Church in Latin America was particularly strained in 2010. This past year has witnessed earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, which caused unprecedented damage to both physical structures and the already fragile economic state of the Church and its parishioners. The Church in this region is facing long years of recovery that will place an extra burden on the annual Collection.

In addition to poverty in the region, the Church in Latin America also faces unique challenges. Emigration caused by the search for a better life, a very low priest-to-parishioner ratio and the local churches’ inability to support the substantial number of parishioners, are factors that contribute to the struggle of the Church in Latin America.

This Collection supports the Church through funding of pastoral projects in the areas of evangelization, formation of priests, religious, missionaries, lay people and catechists, with an emphasis in all their work on youth outreach.

Parishes throughout the Diocese of Venice will take up this Collection for the Church in Latin America the weekend of January 22 and 23, 2011. Your support will truly make a difference and I thank you for all the good you make possible. May God bless you and please be generous!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Frank J. Dewane

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida



Florida Bishops' Statement on Immigration

January 1, 2011

"When an alien resides with you in your land, do not molest him. You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; have the same love for him as for yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt. I, the Lord am your God." **Leviticus 19: 33 – 34**

We, the Catholic bishops of Florida, are deeply concerned with our nation's flawed immigration system and its impact on the human dignity and lives of our migrant brothers and sisters. This system divides families and causes human suffering to those who search for work in support of their families.

In Florida, our economy is dependent upon manual labor for agriculture, construction and the service industry. Limited numbers of worker visas are available to bring unskilled labor into the U.S. for jobs but too often, demand exceeds need. This has created a market for undocumented workers who may face abuses such as inadequate wages, substandard housing and no benefits with a real threat of exploitation by unscrupulous employers, human smugglers and human traffickers. While the Catholic Church does not advocate for undocumented immigration into the United States, it respects the dignity of the human person and the right to work to meet the basic needs of their families.

The more prosperous nations are obliged, to the extent they are able, to welcome the foreigner in search of the security and the means of livelihood which he cannot find in his country of origin. Public authorities should see to it that the natural right is respected that places a guest under the protection of those who receive him. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2241)

The failure of the United States Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform leaves migrants in search of work without legal protection and vulnerable to mistreatment. At the same time, our State and nation benefits from their work and their taxes, creating a permanent underclass with no rights in our society. In his 1981 encyclical letter, *Laborem Exercens*, Pope John Paul II expressed that care should be taken to prevent the exploitation of those who must emigrate in order to find work. Furthermore, just legislation must ensure the same criteria apply to immigrant workers as other workers in society. As a moral matter, we cannot accept the toil and taxes of these human beings without offering them the protections of our laws. This is not the American way.

We also have grave concerns about the impact of this flawed system on family unity. Families are the building blocks for society and the place where children are nourished and protected. Too often, backlogs and visa quotas for countries prevent immigrant citizens and legal permanent residents from bringing spouses, parents and minor children from overseas, a wait for some approaching 20 years. The U.S. citizen children of undocumented immigrants are at significant risk if parents are incarcerated and scheduled for deportation.

Our humanitarian concerns with the broken immigration system do not conflict with, but complement the right of the sovereign nation to control its borders. By repairing the system comprehensively, and providing legal means for entry, the nation would replace illegality with legality so that individuals and families could migrate and work in a safe and controlled manner. This would not only protect the rights of the migrant, but also help ensure national security, as law enforcement would be able to focus on those who come to our country to harm us.

The Church recognizes the right of a sovereign state to control its borders in furtherance of the common good. It also recognizes the right of persons to migrate so that they can realize their God-given rights. These teachings complement each other. While the sovereign state may impose reasonable limits on immigration, the common good is not served when the basic human rights of the individual are violated. (Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope, a joint pastoral statement composed by the Bishops of Mexico and the United States.)

While we support the right of the sovereign nation to control its borders, this does not mean that it should be done in a manner that undermines basic human rights. The vast majority of immigrants to this nation are not criminals, which should be taken into account in any enforcement strategy. The recent increases in deportation and the sometimes inhumane treatment of detainees such as refusal to allow contact with families and no legal representation causes us to question the methods used against those already in fear for their lives. Immigration law is complicated and only trained professionals have current knowledge of the laws, not local law enforcement.

Any passing of laws that give legal sanction to profiling people will decrease public safety and discourage reporting of crime. The so-called 'illegals' are so, not because they wish to defy the law, but because the law does not provide them with any channels to regularize their status in our country which needs their labor. They are not so much breaking the law, as being broken by the law.

Instead of passing local and state laws which cause fear in immigrant communities, Congress must bring these persons out of the shadows so they can fully contribute their talents to our nation. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has consistently advocated for "a path to citizenship" meaning those who are already present and contributing to society could come forward and pay a fine, undergo a comprehensive criminal background check, show they have paid taxes, are learning English and obtain a visa that would lead to permanent residency. Immigration is a federal issue and there must be a federal solution rather than the attempts to craft varying proposals in several states including Florida.

We call upon our federal delegation to lead the fight for comprehensive immigration reform in Congress. We call upon the Florida legislature to resist efforts to demonize those who provide the labor for our economy and a living for their families. Our Catholic Social Teaching and the tradition of the Church affirm the dignity of every human being, made in the image of God.

Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski | Archdiocese of Miami

Bishop Victor Galeone | Diocese of St. Augustine

Bishop Robert N. Lynch | Diocese of St. Petersburg

Bishop John G. Noonan | Diocese of Orlando

Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito | Diocese of Palm Beach

Bishop Frank J. Dewane | Diocese of Venice

Auxiliary Bishop Felipe J. Estévez | Archdiocese of Miami

Bishop John H. Ricard, SSJ | Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Improve Your Eyesight, Help Blessed Pope!

All Saints Eye Center has agreed to donate a percentage of your charges back to our parish anytime you visit their office. They are able to provide you with all of your eye care needs, from eyeglasses and contact lenses to the advanced multifocal cataract or Lasik vision correction surgery.

When you visit them be sure to let them know you read about this promotion in the bulletin so our parish can benefit from their generous offer!

They can be reached at 768-7022.



RICE SCHOOL SPRING SCHEDULE

Fr. Gerard Austin will teach THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH at St. Columbkille in Ft. Myers on Monday evenings from 6:45-9p.m.

Dr. Jack Conroy will teach THE GOSPEL OF JOHN at St. Leo's in Bonita Springs on Tuesday evenings from 6-9p.m.



Fr. George Ratzmann will teach VATICAN II at St. Williams in Naples on Thursday evenings from 6:45-9p.m.

Dr. Barry Sargent will teach THEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY at St. Francis Xavier in Fort Myers on Thursday evenings from 6-9p.m.

For more information, visit our website at www.riceschool.org or call 941-766-7334, ext. 17

The traditional Latin Mass, said by The Fraternity of St. Peter, approved by Bishop Frank Dewane, will be held every Sunday at 2:00 pm at the Church of the Resurrection.