

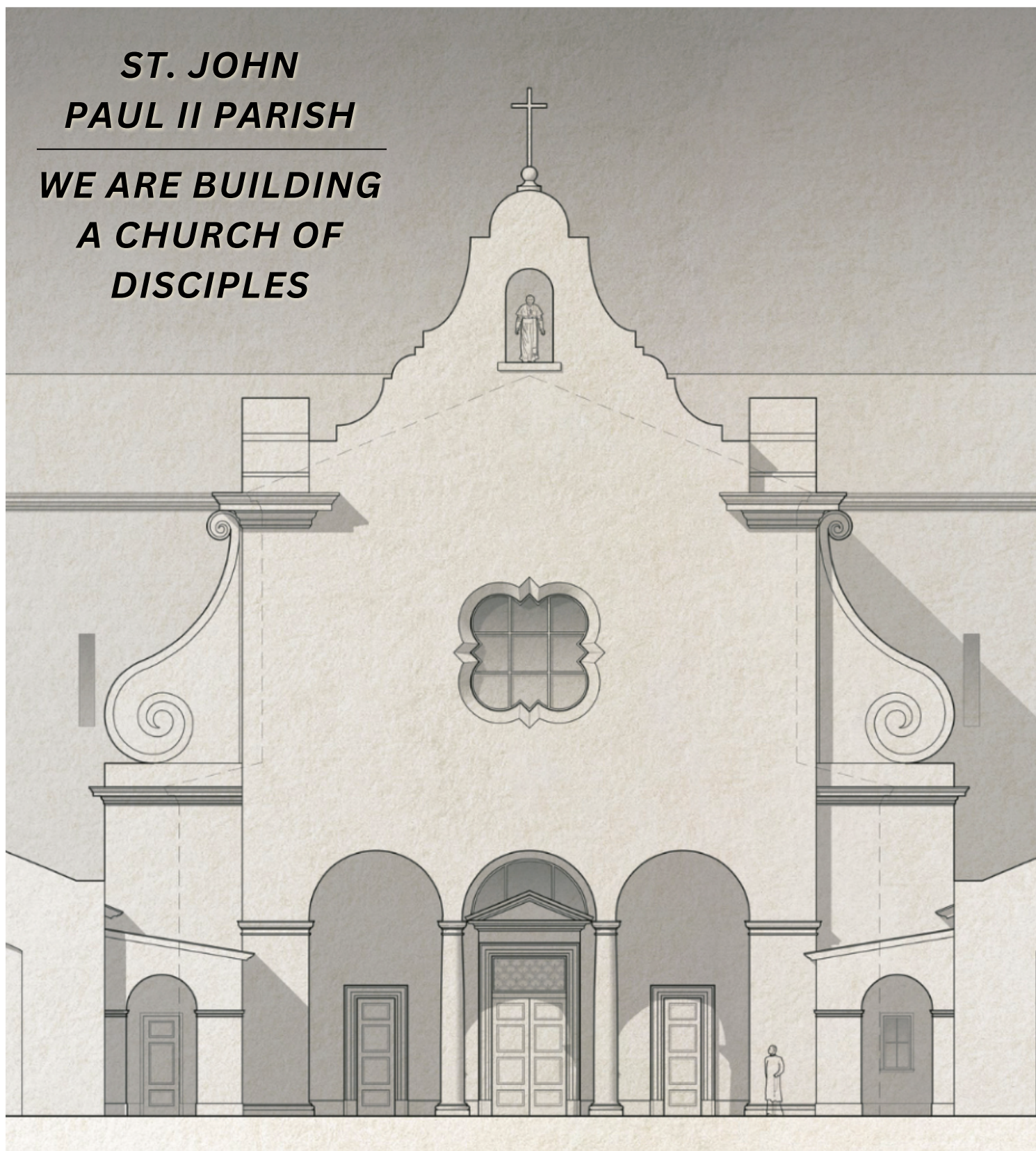


Sunday, October 5, 2025

ST. JOHN PAUL II  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

***ST. JOHN  
PAUL II PARISH  
WE ARE BUILDING  
A CHURCH OF  
DISCIPLES***



# Stewardship Prayer & Order of the Mass

## STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

My Lord Jesus,  
When the rich man asked what it was you wanted of him, you asked him to sell all he had and come follow you. Help me not to walk away as he did, but to not let anything keep me from you. Out of love for me, you have given me what I need. Out of love for me you have trusted me with all good gifts. Help me to realize what I have and to always be aware and grateful. Lord Jesus, you are the source of all and I am you steward. You have called me, I will answer. Lead me, Lord, I will go.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

**Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

How long, O LORD? I cry for help but you do not listen! I cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not intervene. Why do you let me see ruin; why must I look at misery? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and clamorous discord. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one can read it readily. For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of his faith, shall live.

## SECOND READING

**2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14**

Beloved: I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**Save Us O Lord**

**Chorus:**

**Save us, O Lord, carry us back. Rouse your power and come. Rescue your people, show us your face. Bring us back.**

**1.** O Shepherd of Israel, hear us  
return and we shall be saved.  
Arise, O Lord; hear our cries, O Lord:  
bring us back! **Chorus.**

**2.** How long will you hide from your people?  
We long to see your face.  
Give ear to us. Draw near to us,  
Lord God of Hosts! **Chorus.**

**3.** Turn again; care for your vine;  
protect what your right hand has planted.  
Your vineyards are trampled, uprooted, and burned.  
Come to us, Father of might! **Chorus.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9**

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim  
the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before  
the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God, and we are the people he  
shepherds, the flock he guides.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not  
your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your  
fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works."

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

---



## ALLELUIA

1 Peter 1:25

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The word of the Lord remains forever.

This is the word that has been  
proclaimed to you.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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## GOSPEL

Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

## THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN

**Your Words are Spirit and Life**

**Chorus:**

**Your words are spirit and life, O Lord,  
Richer than gold, stronger than death  
Your words are spirit and life, O Lord  
Life everlasting.**

1. God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul  
Reviving the weary spirit  
God's rule can be trusted, bringing us wisdom  
Bringing God's wisdom to birth. **Chorus.**
2. God's precepts keep us, their purpose is right  
They gladden the hearts of people  
God's command is so clear, it brings us new vision  
Bringing God's light to our eyes. **Chorus.**
3. God's Word is precious, desired more than gold  
Worth more than we dare imagine  
And sweeter than honey, this Word will feed us  
Bringing fulfillment and joy. **Chorus.**

## COMMUNION HYMN

**On Eagle's Wings**

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who abide in his shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

**Chorus.**

**Chorus: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of his hand.**

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear:  
under his wings your refuge,  
his faithfulness your shield. **Chorus.**
3. You need not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day;  
though thousands fall about you,  
near you it shall not come. **Chorus.**
4. For to his angels he's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Chorus.**



## COMMUNION HYMN

### Be Not Afraid

1. You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.  
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.  
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.  
You shall see the face of God and live. **Chorus.**

#### Chorus:

**Be not afraid.**

**I go before you always. Come, follow me,  
and I will give you rest.**

2. If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.  
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.  
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,  
know that I am with you through it all. **Chorus.**

3. Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs.  
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.  
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me,  
blessed, blessed are you! **Chorus.**

## COMMUNION HYMN

### Open My Eyes Lord

1. Open my eyes, Lord  
Help me to see your face  
Open my eyes, Lord  
Help me to see.

2. Open my ears, Lord  
Help me to hear your voice  
Open my ears, Lord  
Help me to hear.

3. Open my heart, Lord  
Help me to love like you  
Open my heart, Lord  
Help me to love.

4. I live within you.  
Deep in your heart, O Love.  
I live within you.  
Rest now in me.

## A PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

I give Thee thanks, O holy Lord, Father Almighty, Eternal God, Who nourish me, a sinner, and Thine unworthy servant, with the precious Body and Blood of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I had no merits, no deserts which I could put forward in my own behalf. But let not this holy Communion, I pray Thee, turn to my judgment and condemnation: let it rather obtain for me pardon and salvation. Let it cleanse me from all my vices; let it destroy all my concupiscences and evil desires. Let it increase my charity, my patience, my humility, my obedience. Let it defend me from all my enemies, visible and invisible. Let it appease all the evil propensities of my mind and body; and guide me so straight to Thee, my true and only God, that I may look forward to Thee as the happy goal of all my endeavours. Thus lead me, I pray Thee, to that unspeakable festival, when Thou, and Thy Son, and the Holy Ghost, will be to me and all the Saints, the complete fulness, the end of hope, the everlasting joy, and the never-changing happiness: through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### Lord of All Hopefulness

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3. Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

## ST. JOHN PAUL II

“The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world ... Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us: He is God with us. Seek him without tiring; welcome him without reserve; love him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever!”



# BEACON OF LIGHT GALA

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 17 2025

6:00 PM

SAWGRASS MARRIOTT

## COCKTAIL HOUR | DINNER | DANCING | AUCTION & MORE!

Our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Beacon of Light Gala will be a cocktail party, rather than a formal black-tie affair as in the past, with the fun and exciting theme of “Havana Nights.” We look forward to an evening filled with vibrant music, delicious food, and excellent company, all while soaking in the lively atmosphere of Havana!

Mark your calendars and get ready for a night of fun, festivities, and raising funds for our Church. Tickets are \$200 each and can be purchased in the office or online by scanning the QR code. More information is available on our website, [nocateecatholic.com/gala/](http://nocateecatholic.com/gala/)



**PURCHASE  
YOUR TICKETS  
TODAY!**

### WANT TO BE A SPONSOR?

*There are  
multiple levels of  
sponsorship.*



*Scan the QR code to learn more!*

### SILENT AUCTION WISH LIST

*Please consider  
donating an item from  
our Amazon Wish List.  
We will use these items  
to create baskets for the  
Silent Auction.*



*Scan the QR Code to learn more!*

### WINE & BOURBON PULL

*Two Ways to Give!*

1. Donate a bottle of wine or bourbon
2. Donate a Publix gift card



Wine: \$25 or more  
Bourbon: \$50 or more



Donations for the pull can be dropped  
off at the office!

# Prayer & Worship

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### OUR SICK & INFIRM

Kenneth Minutoli, Letecia Pangilinan-Gella, John Parkin, Alexander Sandel, Dennis Siple, Maria Niki, Frank Scarpinato, April Atchley, Alessandro Garcia, Karen Barbieri, Kate Conklin, Todd Holmes, Alan Bredt, Jean Flater, Diane Howard, David Casey, Ryan Ross, Leslie Schell, Maria Elena Campos Sánchez, Clemence Pierre-Louis, Richard Molisse, Christ Sarikos, Dennis O’Gara, Linda Rodvelt, Michael Collins, Mike Abell, Joe Middlesworth, Conny Niedermeyer, Jenny McColly, Maude Edwards, William Burkett, Jess Japzon

### OUR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Yahaira Moonan, Alyssa Albano, Paloma Goodspeed, Kirsten Decembrino, Ashley Chalmers, Gaby Malone, Sabrina Custer

### OUR DEPLOYED MILITARY

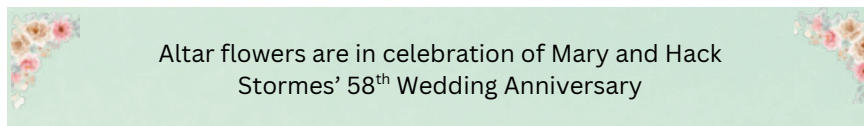
LT Aidan Byrnes, USA; LT Chalin Fairly; SGT Kyle Graves, USA; LCDR Trevor Hoyt; 2Lt. Matthew Mahlmeister, USA; SGT Daniel O’Connor; LT Col Edyta Partum, Polish Army; ENS Erin Sass, USCG; AT2 Kyle Swanson, USN; AOC Shaun Wildenstein, USN; Command Master Chief Avagayle Williams, USN; USAR; Luke Detweiler; LT. Mary Katherine Byrne, JAG, USN



If you wish to add an individual's name to the prayer list, please send a request: [nocateecatholic.com/prayer-request](https://nocateecatholic.com/prayer-request) or scan the QR code. In addition to prayers, if you would like a blessed Prayer Shawl, please contact us at [prayershawl@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:prayershawl@nocateecatholic.com).

## WHAT’S HAPPENING AT SJPII

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>October 11</b> | Blood Drive <b>10:00am</b>                        |
| <b>October 13</b> | Anointing of the Sick <b>following daily Mass</b> |
| <b>October 17</b> | Beacon of Light Gala <b>6:00pm</b>                |
| <b>October 26</b> | Parish Feast Day <b>following the Noon Mass</b>   |



Altar flowers are in celebration of Mary and Hack Stormes' 58<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

“Life is entrusted to man as a treasure which must not be squandered, as a talent which must be used well.”

*St. John Paul II*

## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday 8:30am  
Saturday Vigil 4:00pm & 6:00pm  
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm  
Confessions Saturday 2:30 – 3:45pm  
and 30 minutes before every Mass

## PRAYER & ADORATION

### WEDNESDAYS

Morning Prayer 8:00am  
Adoration 9:00am – 4:00pm  
Evening Prayer & Benediction 4:00pm

24 Hour Adoration every first Friday of the month beginning at 9am

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

4:00pm + Melodie Hodges  
6:00pm Mass for Parishioners

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:00am + Haselmann Family  
10:00am + Judy Palen  
12:00pm Noelia Alvares

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:30am + Charles Snowden

#### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

8:30am + Donavan Johnson

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:30am + Kenneth Wrona

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:30am + Raymond Vessey

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:30am + Kay Murray

Mass intentions through December 2025 have been filled. Intentions can be reserved through March 2026 at this time.

# Ministry Activities

## SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY

Interested in ways to get more active in the parish? Our ministries offer many things including faith & fellowship as well as volunteer opportunities, and more! This week, we are featuring our two

### ROSARY MINISTRIES

#### **Rosary Group**

The St John Paul II Rosary Group meets informally in the rear of the church after the 8:30 AM Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. We welcome anyone to join any day without prior commitment.

Participants pray the Rosary and, time permitting, the Chaplet of Mercy, sharing general, personal, and special intentions. The group also supports a Rosary Chain that includes many others who will pray for requested prayer intentions, for collective prayer support.

Please join us as we honor Mary with her Rosary and if you have a special intention, please notify a member of the group or call the office at 904 330-0153.

**“The Rosary is a powerful weapon in our hands. It not only strengthens us in our personal struggles but also calls down heavenly help for the whole world.” -St. Maximilian Kolbe**

#### **Rosary Making Ministry**

The Rosary Making Ministry volunteers are dedicated workers for Mother Mary providing knotted twine rosaries of assorted colors for parishioners. Sacramental rosaries are provided for each child who is baptized and for each Holy Communicant, as well as those confirming their faith.

In addition, rosaries are also made for the Prayer Shawl Ministry and the Grace and Recovery Ministry.

Meetings occur twice a month, usually every other Monday at 1 pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Volunteers will learn the steps to make a knotted rosary. No experience is necessary except for a desire to serve. Most supplies are provided except scissors and a lighter to melt cut ends.

If you have an interest in helping make rosaries for the St John Paul II community, please text Colleen or Martin Porvaznik at 770-561-7500.



## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



“We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus’ mission on earth... We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God’s presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, Respect Life Reflection: “Life: Our Sign of Hope”



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### Family of the Month

We are happy to announce the Bing family as the St John Paul II Family of the Month for September 2025. Kevin and Kathy are empty nesters and are both from Jacksonville. They have 3 adult children: Caroline, Joseph and Lauren. They have been members of SPJ II since 2017.

Kevin and Kathy are group leaders in the 2nd year Confirmation program. They enjoy working with an impressive team of strong Catholics that volunteer their time to impact the faith of the next generation. In addition, 3 years ago some young adults offered to teach a high school Bible study but needed a family to host. The Bings volunteered and the teens have gathered at the Bing's house once a week ever since. The Bing's are also on the board of our sister Parish Ministry and have taken two groups from SJP II to the Dominican Republic. On these trips the missionaries see Jesus through their encounters with others while distributing food, Bibles & crosses. A mission trip is a sermon that is not forgotten! In July 2025, Father Rafael even participated in the mission trip!



Kevin also serves on the finance council for SJP II. Kathy volunteers with the Living Stations of the Cross. This is an incredibly emotional stirring for the kids and for those who witness the performance the week before Easter. The Bings love our beautiful parish and have made many amazing friends that make our church home a real community.

***Congratulations to the Bing family!***

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## CAREER MINISTRY

**Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**

Advice, fellowship, prayer, and support are at the heart of our parish's Career Ministry. Join us on the **this Monday at 5:30PM in the Church** for guidance, encouragement, and practical tools to navigate your job search. Bring your résumé and questions—our members offer feedback, interview prep, and networking tips to help you succeed in a competitive job market. All are welcome!

Updated meeting information will also be posted to the Career Ministry website: [tinyurl.com/sjpiicareer](https://tinyurl.com/sjpiicareer)

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## HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please let our Homebound Ministry volunteers bring you the Eucharist and pray with you.

Only a commissioned minister should bring the Eucharist outside of church. Send an email to [homebound@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:homebound@nocateecatholic.com) or contact the parish office at 904-330-0153 to schedule a visit.



## MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

### Coffee and Conversations for Widows & Widowers

The The Ministry of Consolation will resume Coffee and Conversations, gatherings for widows and widowers in the church or tent at 10:00 AM on the fourth Monday of the month: **October 27, November 24, and December 22**. Whether you are newly bereaved or have been without a partner for some time, all are welcome. Monthly we'll discuss one aspect of your grief journey, you'll have an opportunity to share if you wish in small group discussions and socialize with others who are without a partner.



For more information, please contact [consolation@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:consolation@nocateecatholic.com).

### Mass of Remembrance

The Annual Mass of Remembrance co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Ministry of Consolation will be held on **Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 6:00pm**. This is a Mass to honor and remember your deceased family or friends.

Please use the QR code below to complete the Breeze form to list the names of those you wish to remember at this Mass. The names will be included in the Memorial Book which will be processed at the Mass and will be displayed on the altar for the month of November.

A reception will follow the Mass in the tent where prayer shawls and bereavement resources will be available. For more information, please contact [consolation@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:consolation@nocateecatholic.com)

### National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day October 15th

The loss of a pregnancy or death of a baby is heartbreaking. National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day commemorates the lives lost due to miscarriage, Sudden Infant Mortality Syndrome, stillbirth, infant death, and other causes. We can all help to break the silence around infant and pregnancy loss. We can overcome societal and cultural taboos against discussing the deaths of children by allowing parents to express their own experiences and commemorate their grief.

If you have a loved one, family member or friend who has experienced pregnancy and baby loss, take the opportunity on October 15 and throughout the year to light a candle to honor and remember the baby and provide the love and support parents and families need to process and to learn to live without their baby.

The Mass for the Precious Ones will be held **November 16th at 3 p.m.** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche. Bishop Erik Pohlmeier will be the celebrant.

For more information, please contact [consolation@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:consolation@nocateecatholic.com)

## VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

New to the parish or a seasoned parishioner? Please consider joining the Volunteer Ministry!

The Volunteer Ministry at SJPII offers you an opportunity to share your interests and skills through adhoc projects or ongoing roles. It connects you to our 30+ Ministries and other parish events. Volunteers are essential to the success of St John Paul II - please help share your background and experience to glorify God and strengthen the community we have formed in His name.

To sign up, join the Volunteer Ministry group to receive communications via Flocknote, and fill out our Volunteer Interest form found at <https://sjpiichurch.breezechms.com/form/5d4553> or scan the QR code!

Please reach out to [volunteer@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:volunteer@nocateecatholic.com) with questions

# Volunteer!



## KRINGLE AND THE KING: CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER

This year, make your Christmas tree more than festive—make it meaningful!

St. John Paul II Parish is excited to launch our Kringle and the King Christmas Tree Fundraiser, benefiting the Light to the Nations Capital Campaign. With premium Fraser firs available by pre-order only, your tree won't just light up your home—it will help build our parish home. Skip the hassle of shopping from lot to lot trying to find the perfect tree at the right price. Instead, secure a beautiful, fresh-cut tree while directly supporting the growth and future of our faith community.



Tree Pickup Dates:

Nov. 29 & 30

Dec. 6 & 7

At St. John Paul II Catholic Church

Sizes Available:

6-7' .....\$110

7-8' .....\$125

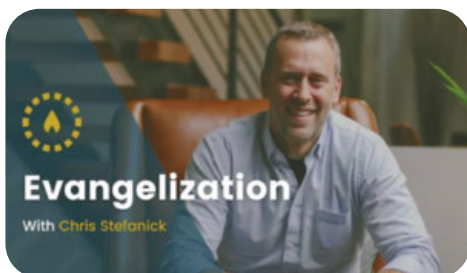
8-9' .....\$180

9-10' .....\$250

Let your family's tree be a sign of light, hope, and giving this Advent season!

## PICKS OF THE WEEK

October 5, 2025



The Lord asked the Prophet Isaiah "Whom shall we send and who will go for us?" We are all called to evangelize our Faith, but how? Watch "**Evangelization**" this week on FORMED.org. Join Chris Stefanick as he discusses what evangelization looks like in our modern world and teaches his tried-and-true method of the why, the how and the what of effective evangelization.



Do your children (or you) see the Bible as a continuous story of Jesus from Old Testament to New Testament? It is, and you and your children can learn how by watching "**The Bible Project**" this week on FORMED.org. This series of short animated stories from the Bible shows how it is a unified story that leads to Jesus.

To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and insert the SJPII zip code (32081)

**Be inFORMED, be transFORMED, with FORMED.org**

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Be Careful What You Wish For

You've probably heard the phrase "Be careful what you wish for." In my experience, it's not often utilized with a lot of charity. You usually hear it said as a warning. The unspoken sentiment behind it is this: You're not as strong as you think you are.

As Christians we shouldn't be surprised to look ourselves in the mirror and own that reality. We are not as strong as we may think. We are time and time again shocked and dismayed by our own weaknesses, our own fears, our own shortcomings.

Should we be careful what we wish for? The apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith, and He told them it would take work. It would take suffering. It would take patience. But He didn't say it was impossible.

As everyday stewards, we need to continue wishing recklessly. Ask God for anything and everything, come to Him with all your needs. Beg Him for grace without limit.

When we hear God's voice, it does not always say what we want to hear. But it always speaks the perfect truth. If it tells us of a hardship that we think we cannot bear, let us take solace in the knowledge that we are the stewards — not the landlord.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI



## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

October 5, 2025

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 17:5-10

A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, “I was just doing my job.” His words brought to mind Jesus’ teaching this week in Luke 17:10:

“So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’” In a world

that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset — one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.



How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace-soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

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## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### The Father Who Knows What You Want

It’s easy to give your kid what he’s asking for. It’s hard to give him what he wants.

If a kid asks to eat an ice cream cone, there’s nothing wrong with giving him one. But if he’s grumpily demanding an ice cream cone at 7:45 in the morning, what he wants — whether he realizes it or not — is some protein and whole grains and a little encouragement to get him going on his day.

So you give him eggs and toast, and you watch him struggle to accept it. Sometimes he does and sometimes he doesn’t, but either way, you’ll be here. You’ll forgive him for whatever names he calls you and you’ll put the healthy breakfast in the fridge, waiting for him when he’s ready to eat it.

“Increase my faith.” I’ve said it to God plenty of times, imagining a prayer life that is effortless and a sacramental life that is uncomplicated, an acceptance of truth that is unshakeable. Easy faith — that’s what I’m asking for, and lots of it, please.

But easy faith isn’t faith at all, and faith that you aren’t strong enough to hold will break your arms. And what God will never do is say, “Sure, kiddo, here you go,” and pass off a false gift as the real thing, just to make us both feel good. He won’t hand me something I’m not strong enough to hold.

That would be a classic lazy-father move. That would be an ice-cream-cone-at-7:45 a.m. move.

Instead, He watches carefully while I navigate the bumpy terrain of the spiritual life, ready to whisper directions in my ear. He holds his breath while the challenges of this world create deep grooves in my soul — and then He irrigates those grooves with the life-giving waters of grace, transforming them into valleys of consolation and respite.

Sometimes I call Him names. Sometimes I refuse what He’s offering. It’s not what I asked for, after all.

But it’s what I want. Luckily, He knows that better than me.

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# External Ministry Activities



**DONATE BLOOD**

**St. John Paul II Catholic Church**  
**Saturday, October 11**  
**10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

All donors receive\*:  
- **\$20 eGift Card**  
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- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

*Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.*

Appointments are encouraged, please visit [oneblood.org/donate-now](https://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use sponsor code **62239**

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\*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Non-transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit [oneblood.org/details](https://oneblood.org/details).

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Learn more by contacting:  
Jeanette Ghioto, Diocesan Coordinator  
[sevensistersstaug@gmail.com](mailto:sevensistersstaug@gmail.com)  
904-710-2277—call or text



**That no priest in our Diocese of Saint Augustine be left behind!**

## TUNNEL TO TOWERS GOLF CLASSIC

**Supporting Local Veterans & First Responders**

**Date:** Friday, November 7, 2025

**Location:** St. Johns Golf & Country Club

**Time:** 8:00 AM Shotgun Start | Check-in begins at 7:00 AM

**Cost:** \$155 per player

**Includes:** 18 holes of golf, breakfast, lunch, raffle, and access to the Pairing Party (evening prior)

**Register or Sponsor:** <https://golfstjohns.t2t.org/>



The Tunnel to Towers Golf Classic is a charity golf tournament supporting injured veterans, first responders, and Gold Star families. This year's event will raise funds for the development of a Veterans Village in Jacksonville—an initiative aimed at eliminating veteran homelessness in Northeast Florida. Join us for a meaningful day of golf, giving, and gratitude.



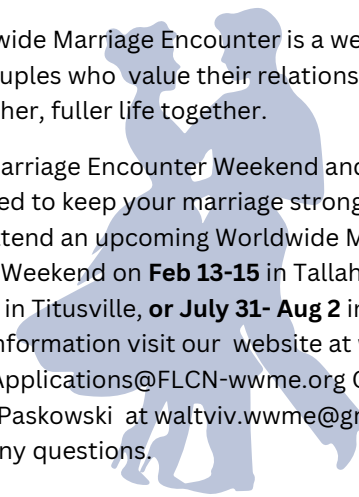
**A Catholic Grief Ministry to support families who have experienced the loss of a child from pregnancy through adulthood**

This fall, two virtual opportunities are available for those seeking hope and healing in grief. Finding the Passion of Christ in Your Story is an eight-week reflection group meeting Thursdays via Zoom, while Hiding in the Upper Room is a six-week Wednesday evening book study. Both groups offer faith-filled spaces of comfort, connection, and God's healing presence. Please contact Regina (904-910-7221) or Dawn (904) 207-9314

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a weekend for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together.

Attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong. Sign up today to attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on **Feb 13-15** in Tallahassee, **or April 17-19** in Titusville, **or July 31- Aug 2** in St Johns. For more information visit our website at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or e-mail: [Applications@FLCN-wwme.org](mailto:Applications@FLCN-wwme.org) Or contact Walt & Viv Paskowski at [waltviv.wwme@gmail.com](mailto:waltviv.wwme@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



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**Monica Trinidad, Business Manager**.....[manager@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:manager@nocateecatholic.com)  
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**Abigail Adamski, Communications**..... [communications@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:communications@nocateecatholic.com)



## PARISH REGISTRATION, LOGIN & PASSWORD

Please register online at [www.nocateecatholic.com](http://www.nocateecatholic.com), or come into the office for assistance. Only ONE person per household needs to register at the following address or by scanning the QR code. If you have questions, please email [registration@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:registration@nocateecatholic.com).

**Already registered?** Create your account at [sjpiichurch.breezechms.com/login/create](http://sjpiichurch.breezechms.com/login/create)



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## MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Looking for information about our ministries?

Scan the QR code or **go to**  
**[nocateecatholic.com/ministries](http://nocateecatholic.com/ministries)**

for the SJPII Ministry Directory. For general ministry questions,  
**[ministry@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:ministry@nocateecatholic.com)**.

*Interested in volunteering? Email [volunteer@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:volunteer@nocateecatholic.com)*



## SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

Our Diocese asks us to verify that all volunteers and employees comply with the provisions to be able to serve within our Parish to ensure a safe environment for our children and seniors. To check your status, or to complete or update your requirements, please visit **[www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org)**. Email questions to:

**[safeenvironment@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:safeenvironment@nocateecatholic.com)**.

## HOW DO I MAKE A DONATION?

### TEXT TO GIVE:

Text the amount you would like to donate to 904-901-7884.

### ONLINE DONATIONS:

Set up online donations at <https://nocateecatholic.com/giving/>

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Altar Flowers may be sponsored on a weekly basis in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions may be made for a living or deceased loved one.

**Only one Mass Intention per Mass is permitted.** To accommodate more parishioners, we limit the number of Mass Intentions per person. Requests may be made up to 6 months in advance.

Please call 904-330-0153 or visit the Parish Office for availability.

## BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION GIFTS

Many IRA owners are unaware that gifts (offertory, campaign pledges, etc.) made to their parish directly from their IRAs are not subject to taxes, do not raise their taxable income and can satisfy all or part of their required minimum distributions.

Questions? **Contact Joe Iannotti at 904-330-0153 or**  
**[bookkeeper@nocateecatholic.com](mailto:bookkeeper@nocateecatholic.com)**

## ATTENTION

The Diocese of Saint Augustine treats all allegations of sexual misconduct seriously and deals with the allegations in a prompt, confidential and thorough manner.

### To Report Abuse Call:

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator**  
**at 1-800-775-4659, ext. 129 or**  
**Department of Children & Families at**  
**1-800-96Abuse or 1-800-962-2873.**

## NEVER MISS A BULLETIN

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com). You also can find the bulletin on our website at [www.nocateecatholic.com](http://www.nocateecatholic.com).

## SUBMIT COMMUNICATIONS REQUESTS

Submit the online form at:

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Requests must be received **by 5:00pm on Tuesdays**; twelve days prior to the Sunday bulletin publication date.

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