

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church

4595 Bayview Drive Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Phone: (954)771-8950 • Fax: (954)771-4178 • Website: www.stjohncc.org • Email: church@stjohncc.org

September 20, 2020 — Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Parish Clergy

Rev. Monsignor Vincent T. Kelly, Pastor

Reverend Patrick Naughton

Reverend John Callan, Sch.P.

Office Hours: Monday 12pm—4:00pm,

Tuesday—Friday 8:30am—4:00pm

Confession: Saturdays from 4-5pm

† Mass Schedule †

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

10:00, Noon & 5:00pm

Daily Masses:

Monday-Saturday: 8:45am



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 19

8:45am ✠ Papi Al and Mary Carlin
 5:00pm **Int.**/✠ Counihan/Purcell Families and
 ✠ Thomas Biancardi

Sunday, September 20

10:00am **Int.** Parishioners of St. John the Baptist,
 ✠ Matthew Dargan, Christine Myers,
 Bashir Kachachi, Johannes Linden and
 Roberto F. Morrell
 12:00pm ✠ Maria Mercedes Balverde and
 Maria Mercedes Uesade
 5:00pm ✠ William, Mary & Donna McFadden and
 Anne Bloom

Monday, September 21

8:45am ✠ Leonardo Valderrama, Sr. and
 Bill Banister

Tuesday, September 22

8:45am ✠ Ernest Gudio and Ines Farina

Wednesday, September 23

8:45am **Int.** Robert Banister (Birthday) and
 ✠ Judy Naughton-Jones and Bill Banister

Thursday, September 24

8:45am **Int.**/✠ Counihan/Purcell Families and
 ✠ Karen Code Valderrama

Friday, September 25

8:45am **Int.** Marisa Mancuso and St. Anna

Saturday, September 26

8:45am ✠ Antonio Poyares & Son and
Int. The Molina Family
 5:00pm **Int.**/✠ John H. Winningham Family,
 ✠ Dr. Robert Dublis and
 Mary Coughlin O'Donnell

Sunday, September 27

10:00am **Int.** Parishioners of St. John the Baptist and
 ✠ Margaret Day, Gloria LaMonica,
 Demetrio & Sergio Castillo and
 Anne DePadro Bloom
 12:00pm ✠ William Connolly and
 Anne DePadro Bloom
 5:00pm ✠ Mario Scaccia and **Int.** Marisa Mancuso

September 26 & 27	Celebrant	Lector	Extra-ordinary Ministers
Sat. 5:00pm	Fr. Kelly	Charlie Russo	Daniel Toomey Susan Toomey Jane Conti Mary Joe Clark
Sun. 10:00am	Fr. Naughton	Pio Ieraci	Lisa Ieraci Adriana Newman Steve Newman Tom Cooney
Sun. 12 Noon	Fr. Callan	Bob Bulfin	Gail Bulfin Jody Williams Bob Read Vicci Read
Sun. 5:00pm	Fr. Wiesmann	Nicholas Reeser	Catherine Miethe Louise Cole-Reeser Jody Williams

**ACT OF
SPIRITUAL
COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Looking at the past invites consideration of the future.

Many past and present members of St. John's provided the beautiful resources we now enjoy. It is becoming that we now assure their continuance into the future. Please provide in your estate plan for a remembrance for St. John's. Join our Legacy Society. Call the Parish for more information at 954-771-8950.

“The Kingdom of Heaven”

In our American culture, one of our obsessions is that we always want to rank things, to put them in order, to know what is the best, who has the most, who is the greatest. We have awards of all kinds to select what we feels the best, what is the top, what merits the highest honor. There's Oscars for movies, Tony's for television shows, Nobel Prizes for a variety of accomplishments, Mother of the Year, World Series, Bowl Games; the list is endless. We seem obsessed to honor one winner who has surpassed all others in some way. And in doing so, we ignore all those who did not rise to the top. We always encourage everyone to strive for the number one position. Do whatever you want in life, but be the best there is at it. Of such is the kingdom of the world.

Many years ago the disciples asked Jesus a worldly question about a heavenly subject. They confused the two kingdoms. There is some merit to their question. At least they were asking about the kingdom of heaven, the more important kingdom. Too often we may ask the wrong question. We may ask who is the greatest in the kingdom of this world. We not only confuse the question, but we confuse the kingdom. If we look at how we spend our time and energy, we may conclude that we are more concerned about becoming the greatest in this world, with little thought about our position in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus' answer to the disciples' question is typical. He always seemed to have a way of turning things bottom-side-up. What he really said was that the one who is greatest in heaven is one who may have no status whatsoever in this world. Children had no position, no power, no authority, and no influence. That's hardly the description of the greatest, according to this world. But the kingdom of heaven is different. The least shall be the greatest. Those who empty themselves shall be filled. Those who are meek shall inherit the earth. The childlike shall be the greatest.

We are challenged to look beyond the goals of this world and to invest our faith-filled energies to seek the kingdom of heaven. We are not to seek greatness as a goal but to spend ourselves serving the Master, doing the work of God, bringing about the kingdom of heaven. The question for us is not who is the greatest, but are we living our lives with the hope of being part of the kingdom of heaven?

Blessings,
Father Vincent T. Kelly

SPIRITUAL RETREAT
From Darkness to Light;
From Despair to Hope

ALL MEN AND WOMEN are welcome to attend this year's St. John the Baptist Men's Retreat **virtually** on Saturday, October 17, 2020 via ZOOM at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center in North Palm Beach. (There are a limited number of spots for men to attend in person. Light refreshments, lunch and dinner will be served for attendees in person.) Enjoy morning prayer, three inspiring conferences, the recitation of the Rosary, and live-streamed Vigil Mass from the comfort of your home. To sign-up online, visit <https://www.ourladyofflorida.org/mens-retreats/> or, if you have any questions, contact Stephen Johnson at 828-289-4445 (cell) or johnson592@yahoo.com.



Our Lady of Florida
Spiritual Center



Respect Life
Needs your donations!



Items that are most needed include:

- * **Size 1 Diapers**
- * **Baby towels**
- * **0-6 months onesies, sleep & plays (short or long sleeves)**
- * **Other gently worn baby clothes (up to 2 years old)**

Please drop donations at the Respect Life office, located at 527 N.E. 13th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304. Office hours are Monday- Friday from 10am-3pm. Please call (954) 565-0229 when you arrive and someone will meet you at your vehicle.



Congratulations!

We happily celebrated the wedding of Catherine Myers, our religious education coordinator, to Ryan Taylor on September 12, 2020. Love and blessings to them always.