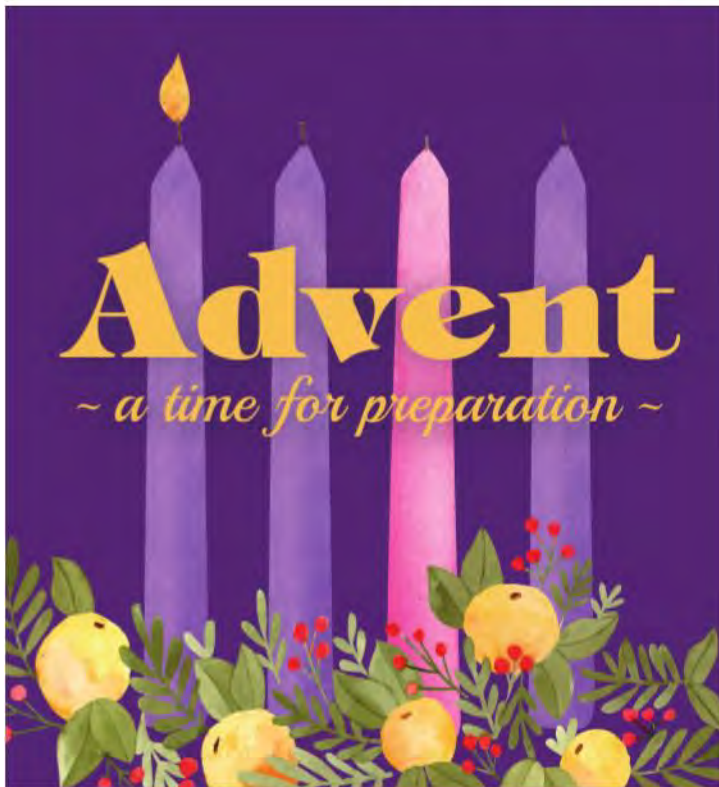




St. Katharine Drexel Parish

1922 SW 20th Avenue | Cape Coral, FL 33991
239.283.9501 | office@drexelcc.org | www.drexelcc.org



DECEMBER 3, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—9:00 am

Vigil—4:00 pm

Sunday—8:30am, 10:30 am and 12:30pm

Monday-Friday—9:00 am

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday—8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Tuesdays—9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Office Phone: 239-283-9501

Faith Formation: (239) 283-0525 or
rose@drexelcc.org

CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays—After 9:00 am Mass

Saturdays—After 9:00 am Morning Mass
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

First Fridays of the Month—After 9:00 am Mass, 6:00 pm
to 7:00 pm or By Appointment

1st Sunday of Advent

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.” Mark 13:33

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR —Father Ricky Varner (varner@drexelcc.org)

PAROCHIAL VICAR— Fr Anthonio Jean (Jean@drexelcc.org)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST—Alba Gibbons (office@drexelcc.org)

RECEPTIONIST—Arianna Affatigato (office@drexelcc.org)

BUSINESS MGR—Frank Newcomb (frank@drexelcc.org)

DRE—Rose Marie Talbot-Babey (rose@drexelcc.org)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC—John Hudak (hudak@drexelcc.org)

YOUTH DIRECTOR—Aileen Vasquez (aileen@drexelcc.org)

MAINTENANCE—Ernie Sierocinski (ernie@drexelcc.org)

HOUSEKEEPING—Gilma Avalos (gilma@drexelcc.org)

FINANCE COUNCIL

Peter Barrett, Sr., Barbara Borders, William Carty, Deborah Eppinger, Tom Feig, Kathleen Houghton, Steve Ketteler, Mark Pennington and Steve Shaw

JEREMIAH TEAM

Father Ricky Varner, Timothy Altieri, Matthew Harkness, John Hudak, Renee Marazon, Rose Talbot-Babey, and Sandy Wilkin

NEW PARISHIONERS Registration forms are available in the church narthex, parish office and on the parish website.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

BAPTISM: Please obtain a baptism registration form either at the weekend Masses, or visit our website. After reading the requirements and completing the form, return it to Religious Education. For more information please email rose@drexelcc.org Baptisms are scheduled after consultation with a priest.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the parish office at least nine (9) months prior to the desired date of the ceremony.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Call Faith Formation at (239) 283-0525.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Are you going for a surgery? Do you need The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick? Please see the priest after any Mass or call the parish office.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS: If you'd like a priest to visit you with the sacraments, please call the parish office.

PARISHIONERS IN HOSPITAL: If you are in a local hospital and would like a visit from a priest, please call the parish office. If it is an emergency, please call appropriate church for that hospital.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4 —SAINT NICOLAS , PRIEST/DOCTOR
9:00 am † Esther Kavanagh

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5
9:00 am Carol La Rose

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6—SAINT NICOLAS, BISHOP
9:00 am † Paquito and Victoriana Lazaro
6:30 pm Marien Aponte

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7—SAINT AMBROSE, BISHOP/DOCTOR
9:00 am † Robert Plazewski, Sr.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 —IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9:00 am † Eddie Sheridan
6:30 pm Saint Katharine Drexel Parishioners

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
9:00 am Kim Bergquist
4:00 pm Saint Katharine Drexel Parishioners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 —2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:30 am Paul and Barb Wingenfeld
10:30 am Saint Katharine Parishioners
12:30 pm Vincenzo and Maria Ciarmella

“Jesus taught a new sacrifice which the Church received from the Apostles and offers throughout the whole world.”-*Saint Irenaeus*

Anniversary Blessings
Saint Katharine Drexel Parish

Offers Blessings and Congratulations to it's Couples Celebrating their Anniversary



Jerry and Terry Farrell
November 23, 2023
65 Years

Would you like to include your Anniversary in our bulletin? Please send your information to: Bulletin@drexelcc.org.

Week of: December 3, 2023

SKD Church Sanctuary Lamp

is lit this week in Memory of
Robert Plazewski, Sr.
By Bob, Kip and Marie

Adoration Chapel Sanctuary Lamp

is lit this week in Memory of
All Souls in Purgatory
By Father Ricky Varner

The red Sanctuary Lamp by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ.
Saint Katharine Drexel, pray for us.



SKD PARISH CALENDAR—MINISTRY EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3
9:00 am Religious Education (FFE/FFW)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4
6:00 pm FMSC (Library)
6:30 pm Ladies Auxillary (Hall)
6:30 pm Knights of Columbus (FFW)
6:30 pm Bell Choir (Church)
6:30 pm Holy Redeemer Group (Library)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5
7:00 pm Ark College Students Group (Chapel)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6
8:00 am TOPS (Hall)
11:00 am Bible Study (FFW)
5:30 pm Children's Choir (Church)
6:00 pm **Trivia Night—Youth Group (Hall)**
6:30 pm TOPS (FFW)
7:00 pm Adult Choirs (Church)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7
10:00 am CCW (Hall)
6:30 pm Holy Spirit Prayer Group (Hall)
7:00 pm TMIY (FFE)
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus
7:30 pm Bible Study (FFW)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8
ALL DAY PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
8:00 am Cursillo (FFE)
9:00 am Franciscans (FFW)
9:00 am Breakfast with Santa (Hall)
9:45 am Voice of the Constitution (Library)

Thank you for your Generosity!

Your gift to the Catholic Faith Appeal will continue to make a difference in the lives of others!

Stewardship November 19, 2023

Offertory: \$11,608.30
Online Giving: \$5,693.79

Stewardship November 26, 2023

Offertory: \$12,758.90
Online Giving: \$4,956.37

Catholic Faith Appeal 2023

Our Goal: \$221,000
Pledged to Date: \$217,982.71
Payments to Date: \$203,577.24

Want to try online giving? Visit parish website: www.drexelcc.org and click on the Online Giving link!

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Ministries

Adoration Chapel: Open 24 hours. Please call the parish office for more information @ (239) 283-9501.

Altar Servers: Call Rose @ (239) 283-0525.

Ark Young Adult: Third Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Email Kerri Houghton at kahoughton1998@gmail.com

Bereavement Schedule: First Friday at 5:30 pm, and third Mondays at 2:00 pm. Contact Carrie Daniels at (239) 770-1510 or carriebereavement@hotmail.com

Bible Study: Wednesdays 11:00 am and Thursdays 7:30 pm. Call Russ @ (239) 574-4743.

Embrace Grace-Mom & Dad Support Groups: Contact Rose Talbot-Babey at: rose@drexelcc.org

Church Decorators: Contact Donna Frys (239) 540-7568.

Children's Rosary: 2nd Saturday of Month, Contact Gina Moreno at: gmdibagno@gmail.com

Council of Catholic Women: Meets First Thursdays September to May. Contact Vicky Parker @ (239) 219-4537 or email at: parker0496@yahoo.com.

Cursillo/Ultreya: Vicki Minervini: vickiminervini@gmail.com

Gift Shop: Open Sundays 9:30 am to 11:45 am.

Holy Spirit group: First Thursday at 6:30 pm Hall. Contact Renee Marazon at: renee@marazon.com

Homebound Ministry : Contact Debbie Eppinger @ (330) 716-3108 or at: buhlcm2@gmail.com

Hospitality: Call Virginia Hinspeter @ (239) 283-3880.

Knights of Columbus: First Monday, 6:30 pm. Contact Lazaro Miel www.kofc11177.org or miell@bellsouth.net

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary: Contact Lizzy Paredes: (239) 233-9050 or lizzy@lpins.org

Lay Augustinians Every 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday at 7:45 pm. Call Russ Summerton @ (239) 574-4743.

Lectors: Contact Laura Furderer @ (239) 691-2233.

Legion of Mary: Contact Patricia Crowder (239) 573-8318.

Mom's Group - Bethany Normoyle (239)980-6537 or brnormoyle@gmail.com

Music Ministry: Bell Choir, Cantors, Children's Choir, Contemporary Choir, Traditional Choir.

Contact: John Hudak at: hudak@drexelcc.org

Prayer Network: Call Jean Triplett @ (239) 699-2624

Prayer Team Ministry: Contact Renee Marazon at: renee@marazon.com

Prayer Shawls Ministry: Meeting third Thursday at 2:00 pm Call Tessa Buechler @ (904) 583-3298

Pro-Life Commission: Jeanine Pennington— Chairperson Contact at: SKDprolife@gmail.com

Redeemer Associates: Fourth Mondays at 6:30 pm. Contact Barbara M. at bmeiderdrut@hotmail.com

Respect Life: Email Maria at: RespectLifeSKD@gmail.com

Rosary: After Weekday Mass and Sundays at 12:00 Noon.

Secular Franciscans: Second Saturday, 9:30 am. Contact Doug Elliott @ (585) 370-6178.

Sons of the Joseph: Mike Vasquez— gyllr@me.com

Spiritual Direction: Rose Marie Talbot-Babey email at: Rose@drexelcc.org

SKD Family Life: Contact Rose at skdfamily@gmail.com

Table of Plenty Food Pantry: Contact Ron Curr @ (239) 281-8833 or Kathy @ (239) 770-3551

TMIS -Timothy J. Altieri, Esq. (239) 810-1093 Email: timothy.altieri@altierilawfirm.com

TOPS: Weight loss support, Wednesdays at 9:00 am, Contact Janice Gainer @ jgainer396@yahoo.com

TOPS: Weight loss support, Wednesdays at 6:00 pm, Contact Debbie Baker @ (937) 626-6247

Vocations: Call Parish Office @ (239) 283-9501

Welcoming Committee: Contact Judy Ketteler @ (816) 809-2227 or at: judydesch@gmail.com

Wedding Coordinator: Karen at: karenrn1008@gmail.com

Women Bible Study- Walking with Purpose : Connie Orr Francesca E. (239) 565-8969 or (239) 600-0470

Youth Group: Youth Director Aileen Vasquez Email: aileen@drexelcc.org Every Wednesday: Upper Room/ High school . 1st and 3rd Fridays of the Month Middle school

Pope Francis prayer intention for December 2023- We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Abuse Reporting

An allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by anyone should be reported immediately to: **Florida Department of Children and Families Child**

Abuse Hotline: 1-800-96abuse (800-962-2873) or visit <https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us>.

If the alleged abuser is a diocesan employer/clergy/volunteer,
also notify Victim Assistance Coordinator – Susan Benton at (941) 416-6114



Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Advent is a beautiful time. Four weeks to prepare ourselves, four weeks of grace. To help us to get ready, every week, we have a different topic to meditate and reflect.

Last week we talked about the second coming of the Lord. And we emphasized the end of the time. And Jesus reminds us that we need to be prepared because we never know when

the Lord is coming. Today, we shift from the second coming to the first coming of the Lord. The birthday of Jesus. The coming of our savior 2000 years ago and now. For that, there is a story.

There is a story about a parishioner who wanted to know about how to become holy or to get into heaven. This person went to visit their pastor and said: Father, teach me what I need to know to have happy life. I have studied sacred Scriptures, I pray every day, I have studied theology, I have been in holy land, I was raised catholic, but I have not found the answer, please, teach me the way. At this point, the pastor served tea to this guest. He poured his visitor's cup full and then kept on pouring so that the tea began to run over the rim of the cup and across the table until tea was cascading upon the floor. This person watched this until he could no longer restrain himself, "Its full, stop, no more will go in," he cried out. Like this cup, the pastor said, you are full of your own opinions and speculations. How can I show you the way unless you first empty your cup? (Empty yourself.)

How can we welcome Christ, how can we receive God's grace? How can we enter the promised land with Him, if we have no room in our hearts for Him, if we are not prepared? This is Advent. Time to empty ourselves in order to prepare a room in our hearts for Christ. Maybe my heart is full of pride, anger, selfishness; to empty ourselves means to repent. That is why John the Baptist, the voice of Advent calls us to repent, to change direction, and to face a new way of life. My friends, to repent is a change of attitude toward life, and toward the things we think important now. To repent is not saying I am sorry over and over again; to repent is doing things in a new way, a way that allows Christ to enter more deeply into our hearts. To repent is to be more sensitive to the ways God comes into our lives all year long.

I encourage you to look at the Sacrament of Penance (Confession). When John the Baptist said, Repent and prepare the way of the Lord, people flocked to the Jordan river to be forgiven. The Sacrament of Penance can do the same thing. Review the below Advent calendar for opportunities to celebrate the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confession. If you say you are sorry for your sins, prove it, and come to the Sacraments Penance and Holy Eucharist; if you say you welcome the Christ Child this Christmas, show it by your works of charity and love. My friends, let us ask God for the grace to repent and empty ourselves in order to welcome Jesus in our hearts.

United in the holy Eucharist,

-Father Ricky

ADVENT CALENDAR [ADVENT GIVING TREE - Return all Gifts by Tuesday, December 12 to the parish hall.]

December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary [**Holy day of Obligation**]

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:30 pm Mass and Confessions afterwards

Wednesdays, December 6, 13 and 20 –

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:00 pm Family Holy Hour with Confessions

6:30 pm Mass

December 21 and 22 –

9:00 am Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Confessions in the Adoration Chapel

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 24th – Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: NO 12:30 pm Sunday Mass... because of Christmas Eve Vigil Masses.

Saint Katharine Drexel Parish – Phone: (239) 283-9501

December 8—*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* [Holy day of Obligation]

9:00 am—Mass and Confessions afterwards

6:30 pm—Mass and Confessions afterwards

ADVENT INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS:

Wednesdays—December 6, 13 and 20

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel

6:00 pm Family Holy Hour with Confessions

Fridays—December 1 and 15

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel

6:00 pm Family Holy Hour with Confessions

Saturdays

After 9:00 am Mass and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

December 21 and December 22

After 9:00 am Mass in Adoration Chapel

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Adoration Chapel



December 24—*Christmas Eve*

[1/2 Hour Sacred Music before each Mass]

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm—Confessions

4:00 pm—Children’s Mass

6:00 pm—Mass

12 Midnight—Mass



December 25—*Christmas Day*

[1/2 Hour Sacred Music before each Mass]

8:30 am—Mass

10:30 am—Mass

12:30 pm—Mass

December 31—Feast of the Holy Family

8:30 am—Mass

10:30 am—Mass

12:30 pm—Mass

4:00 pm—Vigil Mass (Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God)



January 1—Solemnity of *Mary, the Mother of God*

9:00 am—Mass

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024!

Daily Mass—Monday to Friday 9:00 am
 Wednesday Masses—9:00 am and 6:30 pm
 Saturday Masses—9:00 am and 4:00 pm (Vigil)
 Sunday Masses—8:30 am / 10:30 am / 12:30 am



24-Hour
 Eucharistic Adoration

What is Spiritual Direction?

Spiritual direction is “help given by one Christian to another which enables that person to pay attention to God’s personal communication to him or her, to respond to this personally communicating God, to grow in intimacy with this God, and to live out the consequences of the relationship.” (William A. Barry and William J. Connolly, *The Practice of Spiritual Direction*)

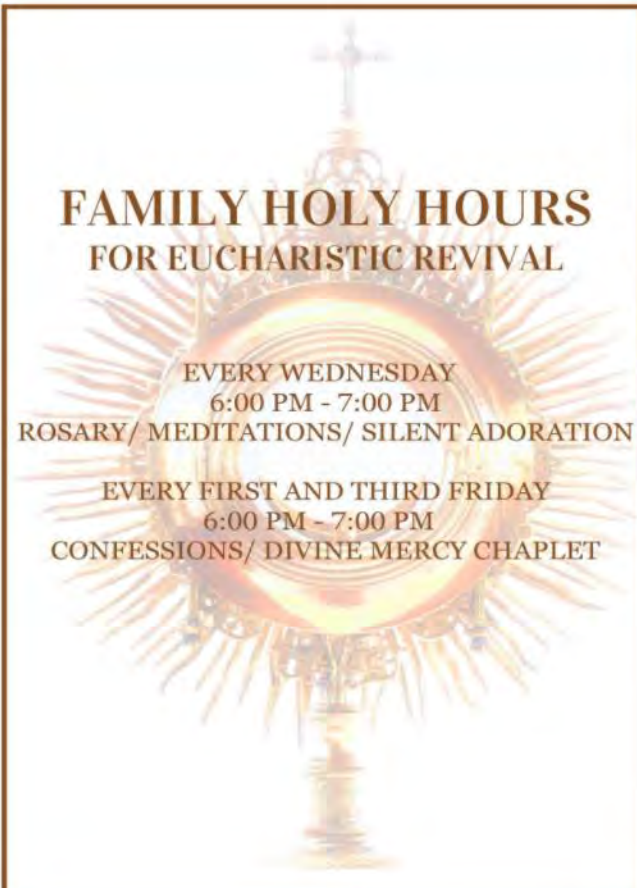
Spiritual direction focuses on religious experience. It is concerned with a person’s actual experience of a relationship with God.

Spiritual direction is about a relationship. The religious experience is not isolated, nor does it consist of extraordinary events. It is what happens in an ongoing relationship between the person and God. Most often this is a relationship that is experienced in prayer.

Spiritual direction is a relationship that is going somewhere. God is leading the person to deeper faith and more generous service. The spiritual director asks not just “what is happening?” but “what is moving forward?”

The real spiritual director is God. God touches the human heart directly. The human spiritual director does not “direct” in the sense of giving advice and solving problems. Rather, the director helps a person respond to God’s invitation to a deeper relationship.

Learn more by contacting: *Rose Talbot-Babey, M.A.A.T., C.S.D.*
239-283-0525 or rose@drexelcc.org



**FAMILY HOLY HOURS
FOR EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**

EVERY WEDNESDAY
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
ROSARY/ MEDITATIONS/ SILENT ADORATION

EVERY FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAY
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS/ DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

ALL ARE WELCOME



Breakfast
with
Santa

Snowman
Pancakes

Join Us
December 9th
9:30 AM-12:00 PM
SKD Parish Hall



Freewill offering

Pray for Our Military

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women | Learn more about God

Join us for **Reclaiming Friendship** to explore what it takes to stay close to friends for the long haul, what to look for in a friend, and how to navigate toxic relationships.



SKD Faith Formation Building EAST Wing
 Starting Wednesday, 1/10/24 and
 Thursday, 1/11/24

Wednesday Mornings 10AM
Thursday Nights 7PM

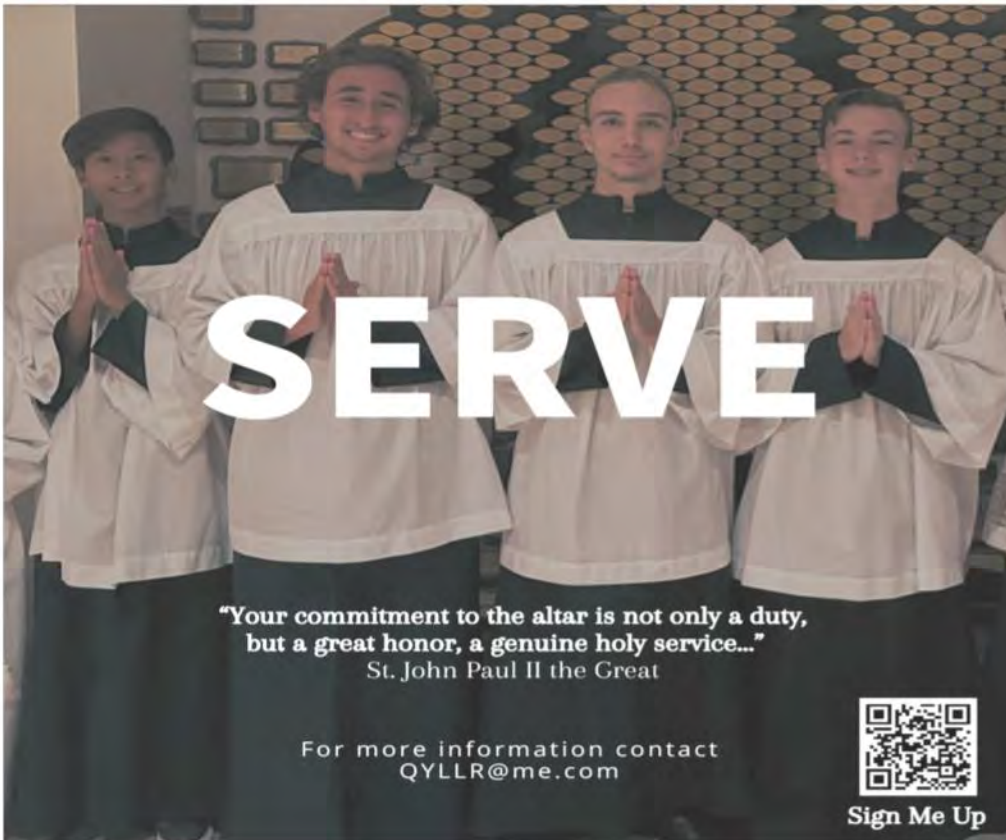
Contact Fran Eubanks 239-600-0470
Connie Orr 239-565-8969



walking with purpose

www.walkingwithpurpose.com

- SFC Ortiz-Lopez Juan Carlos USA
- SPC Joe Cecil USA
- A1C Matthew J. Clarke USAF
- Maj Michael J. Clifford ARNG
- SFC Steven J Cole USA
- 1LT Brent Cox, III, USA
- Capt. Hayes M. Cozza USMC
- Capt. Santino E. Cozza USAF
- ESN Jayden Curr USN
- A1C Hunter Daly, USAF
- ENS Tyler Dunnagan USN
- PVT Zachary Dunnagan USA
- GySgt Evan Fancher USMC
- Maj Shaun Floersch USAF
- Lt. Col. James Hannigan USA
- 1st Lt. H. Matthew Hernandez USMC
- Capt. Jesse Hudson USA
- Capt. David J. Jacobs USAF
- CAPT Barbara A. Joe, USN
- SRA Richard K. Jones USAF
- Capt Armand Kalugdan USA
- PVT Kole Kalisch USA
- SSgt Kole J. Koontz USAF
- Maj Joseph M. LaPointe USA
- SGT James Losh USA
- MSgt. Brian Lynn USMC
- SSgt Jonathan Mamott USAF
- CPT Ryan McMahan USA
- Capt. Sean McMahan USAF
- PFC Chance McQueen USA
- SGT Michael Mercer, Jr. USA
- Maj Christopher Miller USAF
- LCpl Mark Moreno, USMC
- SPC4 Quinn Ogdon USA
- Lt. David Orlowski USN
- PV2 Joseph Patton USA
- GySgt Paul L. Perez USMC
- SGT Alexander Private, USA
- TSgt Taylor M. Purvis USAF
- Lt.Col. Tim Ravas, USAF
- LtCol Christopher Richardella USMC
- Capt Patrick Riley USA
- CPL Gabriel J. Roesler USMC
- PVT Robert Theodore Rosso USMC
- SPC Iliana I. Ruiz USA
- LTJG Dean N. Rye USN
- AB Kelsey Santini USAF
- CPL Anthony Saracino, Jr. USMC
- SGT Nicholas Sbarra USA
- SGT Aaron J Seminara USMC
- Seaman Jeremy Sheppard USN
- Lt. Jeremy Sheppard
- PV2 Alexzander Smith USA
- SN Andrew Tank USN
- CPT Christopher Turley USA
- SGT Madison Valdivia USA
- TSgt Erika Velasco USAF
- CPL Robert Christopher Volski USN
- CPT Garrett Alden Wadsworth USA
- SPC William A. Wallace USANG
- AB Zachary Wheeler USAF
- LT Brad Wilkin USN
- ENS Alex Wowk USN



**"Your commitment to the altar is not only a duty,
 but a great honor, a genuine holy service..."**
 St. John Paul II the Great

For more information contact
QYLLR@me.com



Sign Me Up

For info, Email Rita at:
skd_prayers_for_military@yahoo.com



***My Escape from Postwar Vietnam –
by Adam Nguyen***

Come and join us in fellowship on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at Church of the Resurrection parish center! Our speaker will be Adam Nguyen, Sr. Manager of Engineering & Construction at the Lee County Port Authority. Adam was born and raised in Saigon, Vietnam and immigrated to the U.S. in 1985. He is a member of St. John XXIII Parish and serves as the president of the Vietnamese Catholic Community at the parish. Adam will be speaking about *My Escape from Postwar Vietnam* where he shares his own journey to the United States.

Faith & Ale is a Catholic Men’s group. The program begins at 6 PM with pizza and refreshments for a \$10 donation and concludes at 8 PM. Reservations are required – please register online at www.faithandale.com

2023 – 2024 Program

- January 19 Jim Havens, *Top Seven Decisions of Sainly Father & Husbands – St John XXIII*
- February 15 Pete Lawson, *The Holy Trinity of Survival: Faith, Family & Medicine - OLOL*
- March 21 (Joint Event) Father Larry Richards, *Living Easter Joy – St John XXIII*
- April 18 Mark Middendorf, *The Importance of Catholic Higher Education – St John XXIII*



HELP SAVE LIVES
You can take part in 40 Days for Life 365!

WHEN
Thursdays at Noon

WHERE
Outside Planned Parenthood
6418 Commerce Park Drive, Fort Myers

SKD YOUTH PRESENTS

KARAOKE NIGHT

5:30 TO 8:30PM

DEC 16TH

\$7

50/50

Admission includes pizza, snacks, desserts, & a rockin’ good time.



DECEMBER 10, 2023 10:30-8:00PM

KNOWN

SKD YOUTH WINTER RETREAT

ALL YOUTH GRADES 8-12 ARE INVITED

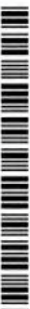
FEATURING

GEORGE & KATIE DE LOS REYES
CAMP VERITAS

MANNY GONZALEZ
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CROSS

IG @SKDYOUTH1922
WWW.DREXELCC.ORG

1922 SW 20TH AVE CAPE CORAL, FL 33991



Music in the Mass

#11: "Seasonal Music & Mass Settings"

And so it begins...

YES, the Christmas Music was already playing on the radio two weeks before Thanksgiving!

The Church Year begins anew with the Season of Advent, the four weeks of joyful anticipation and prayer that leads us to the celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas. During the season of Advent, I will introduce one new hymn and because we only can use it during that four week time period I repeat it from Sunday to Sunday so that we can truly learn the melody and be able to add another song to the repertoire to the Parish Music repertoire. I generally (*and I have already done so the past few weeks*) play the new music instrumentally for at least 3 weeks before I plan on singing it with the parish. Then the week before, (*as we did last week*) either the choir or cantor will sing it as a prelude before Mass so everyone has a chance to hear it before we actually incorporate it within the season.

Many of us know tons of Christmas songs and tunes and it's probably because they are now playing non-stop and repeating on the radio stations, the stores, everywhere! As I began teaching the kids choir two years ago some music for Christmas Eve Mass I was a bit taken back...they didn't know the RELIGIOUS Christmas Music. So I did an experiment and played "Rudolph"....well you can imagine they nearly blew the roof off singing that one. BUT now, going on my third Christmas with the Parish the kids are finally singing the religious songs robustly too!

And now in November, I will begin the Lent/Holy Week Music with the choirs (*especially early this year because Easter is March 31, 2024!*) Ash Wednesday this year is February 14th and so like Advent I will introduce one new hymn into the Lenten repertoire. And the same for the Easter season.

During Ordinary Time (*since it's a longer stretch of time*) I have the opportunity to introduce at least 6-8 new hymns within the Liturgical Year. I will generally do this in the same fashion of playing it instrumentally weeks before we actually use the song, and again will sometimes even have the choir sing it alone at Offertory Time so that everyone can not only listen to the melody but silently pray and meditate on the words.

In Church Music, we also have something known as Mass Settings. These are the acclamations such as the Gloria, Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia) Holy Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, Our Father, and the Lamb Of God. Here at SKD when I started in 2021 we were singing "Mass of Renewal." That summer (2022) I began teaching /using the Mass of "Sing Praise And Thanksgiving" (*the one we're singing now again, written by Michael Joncas the same composers as "On Eagles Wings."*) This past summer (2023) I introduced the "Millennium Mass" a setting that I composed. We printed the melody lines in the parish bulletin as this is easier when learning a new melody. I specifically started it then so that everyone could clearly hear the melody line and learn it over the summer with me as the choirs were on summer recess. Then when the choirs returned we added the four-part harmonies without anyone losing the melody. I *generally* keep a Mass Setting for a couple months. We will change it out in Lent with Latin Chant (*Sanctus. Agnus Dei*) and the Mass of Creation, and then for Holy Week return to the mass of "Sing Praise and Thanksgiving. Again by **rotation** and **repetition** we begin owning the new melodies to these prayers. And, because I always plan out an entire year this summer we will explore a new setting for 2024.

Thanks for taking the time to read this column each week. It is my hope to just share how and what I do as the Music Director. I've been a Music Director in various churches for almost **35 years** and I love my vocation as a Music Minister. My greatest joy is being able to share the gifts and talents God has given me with you. Thank you SKD for continuing to sing, pray and encourage my music ministry with you!

John SC Hudak Director of Music

Hospitality Ministry

New parishioners, longtime member's Of Saint Katherine Drexel Church Would you like to meet new parishioners?

Hospitality Ministry is the fun way to go. Ministers at all Masses 4pm, 8:30, 10:30, 12:30am meet and greet all attendees at church, assist them as needed and answer questions about our parish.

Interested in joining, contact Virginia Hinspeter at email : first-dreamteam@yahoo.com

STOP SEX TRAFFICKING

SEX TRAFFICKING is the 3rd FASTEST growing crime in the WORLD! It is a 150 billion dollar a year industry. Your children are at risk! Our safe little world is now in need of SAFE HOMES to protect our children against the extensive trauma inflicted upon these children at the hands of their traffickers.

SKD CCW Invites ALL to hear ~ Karen Gaston, Business Development Director of WINGS OF SHELTER, to speak Thursday, December 7th at 10:00 AM in the SKD HALL. Karen wants to HELP you and your families PROTECT our children against this present-day evil.

www.wingsofshelter.org

MEN'S MORNING OF REFLECTION WITH ST. JOSEPH

A MINI RETREAT AND INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH



SATURDAY- JANUARY 6, 2024

Begins w 9:00am Mass
Ends at 12:30pm
Location: Faith Formation Building West
Coffee & Breakfast will be served

St. Joseph silently and diligently provided for the needs of the Holy Family to welcome Jesus into the world. Similarly, the job of the sacristan is to prepare for the celebration of the Mass where Jesus descends upon the altar that we might receive Him. May we prepare for consecration to St. Joseph, mirroring the same spirit of diligence, holy silence, & humility that our Lord's foster-father also had in providing for every need of the Christ Child. Through the intercession of Our Most Blessed Mother, we pray. Amen.

REGISTER  HERE



Know the facts!

2024 Florida ballot proposal: "Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion"

F A C T # 1

This proposed amendment would legalize abortion **up until birth**, even allowing **partial-birth abortion**.

Isn't that going too far?

DECLINE TO SIGN the petition for this dangerous pro-abortion amendment!

Questions? Go to dioceseofvenice.org/respectlife.

Knights of Columbus Car Show 2024



January 13, 2024
8am-1pm



VENDORS WANTED

Contact: Ron Curr @ 239-281-8833

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Third Friday of Every Month - 9:00 am to 12 Noon



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Thanks to everyone who participated in the Feed My Starving Children Feeding Tree the past two weekends. If you haven't dropped off your donation yet, please drop it in our donation globe outside in the narthex.

Also, mark your calendar for February 18-20 for our seventh annual MobilePack. If anyone is interested in helping our core team plan and staff the event, please contact Barth Wolf at 920-621-6097 or bwolf3@new.rr.com. We would love to have you join us!





The Filipino-American Association of Southwest Florida (FAASWF), a 501c(3) Corporation, cordially invites you to attend the SIMBANG GABI on December 17, 2023, Sunday, starting with a MASS at 4 pm at the Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church at 1922 SW 20th Ave, Cape Coral, FL 33991. The Mass will be followed by a POTLUCK RECEPTION at the Parish Hall.

SIMBANG GABI is a long treasured Philippine Christmas tradition that was originally a series of 'dawn masses' for nine consecutive days before Christmas Day. Here in Cape Coral, we modified this tradition into only one day focused to the original objective of the celebration.

For information, you may contact:

Jeanne Isberto - 239-747-4568
 Juan Cordero - 239-989-9310

Rose Creus - 239-440-5555
 Jun Santiago - 239-540-2634



All gifts unwrapped with the tag from **The Christmas Giving Tree** need to be Returned by **December 10 to Parish Hall**

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