

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR | JUNE 2026

Dear friends,

For families with children, the month of June signals the end of the school year and the beginning of summer, a time to relax and enjoy being together. While a break from school and all the extracurriculars is a nice change of pace, I am concerned that some of you might also be taking a break from Church and parish life. It is my sincerest hope that you will not relegate Sunday Masses to one of the optional choices during the summertime.

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and, this year, it assumes even greater significance. The USCCB has decided to consecrate the nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as we celebrate the semiquincentennial (quarter millennial) anniversary of its founding. On June 11, 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We will pray the consecration prayers in our parish during the Behold the Lamb of God Holy Hour at 7 p.m. on the Vigil of the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On June 12, the feast day of the Sacred Heart, we will celebrate Masses at 8 a.m. and 12:05 p.m., concluding with a Holy Hour at 3 p.m. Please come and thank our God for the amazing gift of our nation.

I request you to pray this prayer as part of our desire to unite with the beating heart of Jesus who longs to dwell in our hearts:

O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:

You know the longings of our hearts, and you desire that we enjoy friendship with you.

From your pierced side, you have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst.

Your heart burns with a love for all people to return to a right relationship with you.

We celebrate the abundant gifts you have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We make reparation for the offenses against you and against human dignity that have taken place in this nation.

May our hearts be united to yours, so that our families and communities enjoy peace and happiness; may broken relationships be reconciled, injustices repaired, and the wounds of our land be healed.

May your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to your infinite love.

O Desire of Nations and Center of History, we ask you to bless these United States of America.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!

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On Saturday, June 13, we will honor our Mother Mary on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary with Mass at 9 a.m.

This month, we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). This year, it falls on June 7. The Solemnity invites us to rediscover this simple yet profound truth: Jesus is truly present among us in the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist is not merely a symbol or a reminder of Christ. It is Christ Himself — His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity — given to us as food for our journey. We will honor the real presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist with a reverent, silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before every Mass on the weekend of June 6/7.

Also this month, we will be hosting Vacation Bible School from 8 - 12 June. I thank Lisa Starr for leading the charge this year and all the volunteers who will help during this time of fun and learning for our children. Thanks for your support of this program through donations and prayer.

We also give thanks to God this month for bringing Fr. Martin to our community; however, the time has come to bid him farewell as he moves on to St. Timothy Catholic Church in Lady Lake (The Villages) as parochial vicar. Though we are saddened to see him go, this move is part of the process to be incardinated into the Diocese of Orlando. Please join us in thanking Fr. Martin after every Mass on the weekend of June 20/21. Let us pray that he continues to bring Jesus' love to the people of that parish. He will be leaving us on June 30 for his new assignment beginning July 1.

Love,

Fr. John 

(Important calendar dates for June 2026 continued on page 3)

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

IMPORTANT DATES ON THE CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2026:

Every Wednesday in June, Rosary at the Grotto @ 6:30 p.m. (weather permitting, otherwise indoors)

Friday, June 5:

3:00 p.m. First Friday Devotion (Church)

Saturday, June 6:

9:00 a.m. First Saturday Mass (Church)

10:00 a.m. New Altar Server Training (Church)

4:30 p.m. Annual Blue & Gold Mass and Notre Dame Club Dinner following (Church & Hall)

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI (The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ)

Adoration before every Weekend Mass June 6/7 (Church)

Monday, June 8 – Friday, June 12:

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School (Parish Hall)

Thursday, June 11:

7:00 p.m. Behold the Lamb of God Eucharistic Adoration Event (Church)

Friday, June 12:

12:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass (Church)

3:00 p.m. Holy Hour for the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Adoration in Church)

Saturday, June 13:

9:00 a.m. Immaculate Heart of Mary Mass at Grotto (Weather Permitting, otherwise in Church)

Sunday, June 14:

1:00 p.m. Tamil Mass (Church & Hall)

Friday, June 19 – Sunday, June 21:

Steubenville Orlando Youth Conference (Orlando)

Friday, June 19:

ALL DAY Parish Office Closed (Juneteenth)

FAREWELL TO FATHER MARTIN

After every weekend Mass June 20/21 (Hall)

Sunday, June 21:

Father's Day

Saturday, June 27:

10:00 a.m. Community Baby Shower hosted by Walking with Moms in Need (Hall)

Sunday, June 28:

ALL DAY Blood Drive

1:00 p.m. Sensory Friendly Mass (Hall)

FIND THESE DATES AND MORE ONLINE AT www.StJohnViera.org/Calendar