SECOND SUNDAY OF Advent

A voice cries out:
In the desert prepare the way of the Lord!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low.

Isaiah 40:3-4

Saint Paul of the Cross

Christmas Schedule Inside!

Masses
Daily:
Mon. - Fri.
8:00 am & 5:30 pm,
Sat. 8:00 am;
Sat Vigil:
5:00 pm,
Sunday:
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:45 am, & 5:00 pm
Confessions:
Sat 8:30 - 9:00 am or by appt.

A Catholic Community Where People Choose to Belong!

Reverend Thomas R. Lafreniere, Pastor
Msgr. James M. Burke, Retired
Rev. Daniel Devore, Assisting
Rev. Lee Smith, Retired
Deacon Frank Bandy

Rev. John Chandler, S.J., Retired
Rev. Melvin Shorter, C.P., Assisting
Rev. Brian Flanagan, Retired
Deacon Gregory C. Quinn

10970 Jack Nicklaus Dr. North Palm Beach, FL 33408
Web Site: www.paulcross.org
Phone (561)626-1873
Fax (561)626-4383
Email: office@paulcross.org
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
7:30 AM  For the intentions of our parishioners
9:00 AM  For the intentions of
Laura Lammert-Chighizola
by her parents, Dr. & Mrs. Lammert
10:45 AM For the intentions of Patrick C. Slevin
by Frank & Dottie Chris
5:00 PM  For Jack Thomas by his family
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11
8:00 AM  For Bernice Wilt by Mary Ann Keller
5:30 PM  For Deloris King by her family
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12
8:00 AM  For the intentions of Dany DelMedico
by Anita DelMedico
5:30 PM  For the intentions of The McMillan Family
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
8:00 AM  For Nicola Maimone by Theresa Trotta
5:30 PM  For Catherine Gerard
by her husband & family
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14
8:00 AM  For The May & Tasket Families
by Rita Lescher & Family
5:30 PM  For Frank Donato by Dan & Amy Carbone
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15
8:00 AM  For Mildred Schlutenhoffer
by Robert & Nancy Anderson
5:30 PM  For the intentions of Laura DeLaCruz
by The DeLaCruz Family
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16
8:00 AM  For Mike Zetwick by Sheila Ebbeṭt
5:00 PM  For Wayne Domres by Kyle Caparosa
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
7:30 AM  For Leonard Sedor
by The Sedor & Stroker Families
9:00 AM  For the intentions of our parishioners
10:45 AM For Don Culligan
by David, Kathleen & Sean Ancona
5:00 PM  For Jason Jablonski by The Faris Family
**Baptisms**

Celebrated on the second Sunday of each month at 12:00pm. Parents are encouraged to attend instruction class prior to the birth of their first baby. Call the Office to register.

Next Baptism Class is Saturday, January 13th

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**Marriages**

Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please call the Parish Office.

Our beautiful Ave Maria Banquet Room (capacity 325) and our renovated Parish Hall (capacity 175) are now available for rental for approved adult receptions and gatherings for occasions connected with church events.

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**Religious Shop**

Stop by the Religious Shop for one of a kind, hand picked gifts for a loved one, or for yourself. Nativity Sets, ornaments and Christmas cards are all 20% off. We have a great selection of Advent books, wreaths and candles.

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**FOR DECEMBER 16/17**

Sat., 5:00 PM - Adult Server
Sun., 7:30 AM - Anthony & Grace
9:00 AM - Parker & Audrey
10:45 AM - Ray
5:00 PM - Volunteer Needed

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**FOR DECEMBER 16/17**

Sat., 5:00 PM - Nancy Anderson
Sun., 7:30 AM - Mark Hopper
9:00 AM - James Hook
10:45 AM - Dina Keever
5:00 PM - Kristina & Carter

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**SECOND COLLECTION—THIS weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious Brothers and Sisters.**

This week, December 11th, at a glance…

**Monday:**
- 8:30 AM Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Help
- 2 PM Yarn & Rose Knitters
- 5 PM Sandwich Makers

**Tuesday:**
- 8:30 AM Legion of Mary
- 9 AM Hospitality Ministry
- 10 AM Christ Child Meeting
- 1:30 PM Bereavement Group
- 6:10 PM Legion of Mary

**Wednesday:**
- 10 AM Walking with Purpose Women’s Bible Study
- 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal
- 7 PM The Bible Timeline Bible Study
- 7 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting

**Thursday:**
- 7 PM Advent Penance Service
- 7 PM Walking with Purpose Women’s Bible Study
- 7:30 PM Charismatic Prayer Group

**Friday:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday:**
- 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM Coffee, Donuts & Fellowship
- 9 AM Story Keepers
- 9:15 AM RCIA
- 10 AM - 12:30 Knights of Columbus Parish Breakfast
- 5 PM Confirmation I & II, Middle School; Mass, Dinner and Class
- 6 PM Rehearsal for Christmas Eve Gospel Pageant

**Looking forward to, in the near future:**
- Mondays 5:30 PM – Al-Anon Meeting; 12/20 Columbus Meeting; 12/21 Mass & Healing Service; 1/14 & 1/21 Christ Child Layette collection; 1/20 4th Annual Parish Fashion Show, Luncheon and new Boutique; 1/27 Neapolitan Knight; 3/2 Parish Casino Night

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**God Bless You and Thank You**

for your generosity in supporting your church!
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

SECONDD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
**Tuesday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

TO PREPARE FOR THE READINGS OF DEC. 16/17

**First Reading** — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).


**Second Reading** — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

**Gospel** — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).
CONFESSIONS
Thursday, December 21 - 8:30 AM  
Friday, December 22 - 8:30 AM  
Saturday, December 23 - 8:30 AM

DAILY MASS
Saturday, December 23 - 8:00 AM
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SATURDAY VIGIL, Dec. 23rd 5 PM  Sunday, Dec. 24th  7:30, 9 and 10:45 AM

NATIVITY OF THE LORD—MASSES
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
5:00 PM - CHILDREN’S PAGEANT
(Come early for pageant seats. Concert begins at 4:30 PM)
8:00 PM (Concert begins at 7:30 PM)
11:00 PM (Concert begins at 10:30 PM)
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM
NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

MARY MOTHER OF GOD
Monday, January 1
8:00 AM, 12:15 PM
NO EVENING MASS ON NEW YEAR’S DAY

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
Sunday, December 24 and Monday, December 25
Sunday, January 31 and Monday, January 1

St. Paul of the Cross WOMEN’S WEEKEND RETREAT at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center
beginning, Friday, Jan. 12, 2018. The retreat is open to all ages,
begins on Friday evening at 8 PM and concludes Sunday at noon.
Please contact Mary Kay at 561-626-2931 for more information.
CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS & DECORATIONS
We will soon be decorating our church for Christmas with poinsettias, wreaths, trees, and lights. Your memorial will help us to do this. The offering for a memorial of a loved one is $10. Please print CLEARLY the name of the deceased in the space provided below, place the offering in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office. The names of the deceased will appear in our bulletin in January.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL Thrift Store
250 W. INDIANTOWN ROAD #108 Call 561-401-9585
Mon. - Fri. 10am-4pm & Sat. 9am-3pm
Come visit our Christmas Room, NOW OPEN!

FAITH FORMATION
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

CIA - Religious Education for 1st - 5th grade, Sundays 10:15 - 11:45 AM
12/10 Session, 12/24 Christmas Eve Gospel Pageant

Middle School, 6th & 7th graders and Confirmation I
8th graders, Confirmation II
9th graders
Sundays 5 PM Mass & 6 PM - 8 PM, dinner and class
Dec. 10th & 17th

Join a great team! Altar Server’s needed!
Altar Servers are a vital part of the Mass. If you would like to be an Altar Server and you have received your First Communion, please call the office. Adults are welcome to serve.

Are you or a loved one in need of a Caring Friend to take you to Mass, shopping, or a doctor’s appointment, etc.? Please contact Lee Vaughan at 561-309-3692 or the parish office at 561-626-1873.

Watch the Catholic Mass Each Sunday
Tune in at 10:30 a.m. for the televised Catholic Mass on local station CW34 WTVX.
Found on the following channels:
On Comcast Channels 4 & 435HD
On AT&T/U-Verse Channels 4 & 1004HD
On Hometown Cable Plus Channels 4 & 304 HD
On Direct TV & Dish Network Channel 4
On Digital Antennas Over-the-Air channel 34.1

Diocese’s Christmas Mass
The Diocese of Palm Beach’s televised Christmas Mass will air on Christmas Day, December 25, from 10:30 am – 11:30 am on CW34. Additionally, for the benefit of its regular viewers, CBS12 will air the Mass on Christmas Day from 5 am – 6 am. Bishop Barbarito will be the Mass celebrant. There will also be great music from a choir.
This Christmas Mass allows those who are sick and homebound to hear God’s Word and to celebrate Mass.

STORY KEEPERS - Children, infant to age 5 are welcome to come to the Parish Center during the 9 AM Sunday Mass. Hope you can join us!

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15 AM IN THE COFFEE HOUSE.
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 561-626-1873.

Children’s Liturgy during the 9 AM Mass! Encourage your school age children to participate!!

ural Catholic radio at 98.3 FM or to live streaming at CatholicRadioPalmBeach.com. You can now download our app for your iPhone or android and stay connected to your faith 24/7.

Join us for coffee, donuts and fellowship after all Sunday morning Masses in the Parish Hall.

Listen to Catholic radio at 98.3 FM or to live streaming at CatholicRadioPalmBeach.com. You can now download our app for your iPhone or android and stay connected to your faith 24/7.
New Parishioners - Registration forms are available on our website, in the office during the week, and in the vestibule of the church in the wall rack.

Registered Parishioners - Please help keep our census current by advising us of any changes of address, phone numbers, and family additions or deletions. SO...

For every new registration and any updates made for registered parishioners the family will receive $20 Casino Cash to use at the Parish Casino Night in March!! Thank you for helping us to keep our records up to date!

Please consider joining the Knights of Columbus at St Paul of the Cross Parish.
Contact Jonathan Knaus @ 561-603-8303 or email kofc12322@gmail.com

If you are interested and would like to become a Columbiette, please contact Carol at 561-818-0342 or Wanda at 718-877-9100.

2nd Sunday Lunch Bunch Group 2017--2018 Season
RESERVATIONS & Information please contact
Annette Law Beverly 561-389-0985 or annette.beverly@gmail.com

We will meet on the 2nd Sunday through April 8th

Knights of Columbus general meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, the next meeting is, Dec. 20th at 7 PM in the Coffee House. Refreshments begin at 6:30 PM.

Please consider joining the Knights of Columbus at St Paul of the Cross Parish.
Contact Jonathan Knaus @ 561-603-8303 or email kofc12322@gmail.com

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE
Stop by the Religious Shop or Parish Office
4th Annual Parish Luncheon
Boutique & Fashion Show Sat., January 20th, 11 am
Tickets $55

Please Be a “TV Christmas Star” for the Taping of the Christmas Televised Mass on Monday, December 18, at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Ignatius in Palm Beach Gardens.
All are invited! There will be great music performed by the choir and Bishop Barbarito will be the celebrant of this Mass that will air on Christmas morning on local television for the benefit of the sick, homebound and many others in our community.
It means so much to our viewers to see a large faith family of individuals and families sitting in the pews together in the Church. Please come dressed in your holiday finest attire and join us for this special celebration! Light holiday refreshments will be served afterward.
For more information, contact the Diocesan Office of Communications at 561-775-9529 or dlaubert@diocesepb.org

SAVE THE DATE
12/17 Parish Breakfast
10 AM - 12:30 PM
$10 per person, children under 12 free

1/27/2018 Neapolitan ‘Knight’
6 - 9 PM $30 per person, includes 2 drinks

Mark your Calendar!
Save the Date!

TICKETS
NOW AVAILABLE

SAVE THE DATE
SAT., MARCH 3, 2018
6 - 10 PM
Casino NIGHT
Annual Christmas Eve Children’s Gospel Pageant

Sunday, December 24, 2017  5:00 PM

Parents: Help to make Christmas meaningful and memorable for your children! Please, encourage them to participate in our pageant to be held during the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

Sheep: 4-year olds, Kindergarten and First Graders - wear regular Christmas clothes. Costumes will be provided.

Shepherds: Grade 2-4 - wear some sort of shepherd’s garb.

Donkey: The first fourth, fifth or sixth grader who signs up. Wear shepherds garb, you will lead the donkey.

Angels: Grades 2-4 - wear a long white “angel” costume with silver trim at the hem and at the edge of the sleeves. Wings and halos needed.

Archangel & Star: The first two fifth graders who sign up. Archangel needs an angel costume with gold trim. Star wears regular Christmas clothing.

Kings: First three sixth/seventh graders who sign up. Costumes will be provided.

There will only be one rehearsal for the pageant. You must be available for both the rehearsal and the pageant.

Rehearsal is Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 6:15 PM* - 7:30 PM in the Church. *or when Mass is over!

I am willing to help as a volunteer. Parent Volunteers are invited and needed to help children with costumes, lining up, leading and directing them to their places, clean up, prop preparation etc.

To participate, please complete the following and return to the Parish Office by Monday, December 11th or call/email Kate at 626-1873/kate.devine@paulcross.org.

Family Name: ____________________________________________________________

Daytime phone/email: ____________________________________________________

Child: __________________Age ______ would like to participate as: _______________

Child: __________________Age ______ would like to participate as: _______________

If any school age child is interested in singing for the pageant, you may do both.
"UN-TRIM THE TREE"

Parish Advent Program

Like the three wise men who went bearing gifts to the Infant Jesus, please consider joining our parish community in bearing the light of Christ this Christmas through our

_**Un-trim the Tree**_ Parish Advent Program

We will be distributing about 100 presents to the children at Holy Cross Preschool; 60 gifts to elderly residents at St. James and St. Andrews government-subsidized housing in West Palm Beach; 60 gifts to senior residents at Villa Regina in West Palm Beach and 60 gifts to Villa Franciscan in Riviera Beach, both of which are subsidized by Catholic Charities. We will also give gifts to 40 children from Family Promise, 25 or so handicapped people, 20 children through a local outreach program, 13 to DePorres Place and several families we serve directly.

The presence of our Parish ministering to those who are less fortunate throughout the year, and especially at Christmas, is truly a blessing to them, and to us.

Each parish family may participate in the following way:

1. Take one or more paper ornaments from the Advent Tree In our Sanctuary along with a "directions" flyer which can be found in a basket beneath the tree.
2. Purchase & wrap the gift and tape the **SAME TAG** on top.
3. Place the gift under the bare tree

_no later than Sunday, December 17_

Your gift will be delivered during the week before Christmas.

UN-TRIM THE TREE FOR CHRISTMAS AND WELCOME THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR BY SHOWING OTHERS HOW MUCH WE CARE!!
Whether or not we are present at Church, we remain one in the Lord. Please keep the following members of our parish family in your prayers: Shellie Colon, Albert Baker, Nicholas Evans, Patricia Sears, Rusty Canant, Sam Loria and

Margaret Actin
Diane Alberti
Peter Allone
Charlie Augustine
Charles Aviano
Clare Bellucci
Vinni Bertolino
Ted Bielaczy
Peggy Black
Beau Bloomquist
James Boyer
Philip Brennan
Sandy Budd
Bill Cahill
Coralie Cahill
Mary Carroll
Francisco Javier Castillo
Skipp Chabek
Henry Chenette
Bill Cherrie
Cecilia I. Chevos
Kimberly Chorniewy
Jeannine Chosson
Debbie Coccia
Kristin Snyder Costa
Don Crawford
Eileen Crowell
Lenny D’Agostino
Rick DeBlasio
Ela Elias Degalvez
Richard Dalessio
Rita Dickson
Gina DiDonato
Kristina DiDonato
Tom Dingee
Rand Doane
Robert Duncan
Will English
Robert Fanelli, Jr.
Jane Faulkner
Patricia Fetter
Joseph Fink
Mike Forte
Terri Reekers Francisco
Evelyn Frazier
Jack Frazier
Anna Elias Galvez
Jose Galvez
Gail Ganzlin
Brittany Garcia
Elaina Gargano
Eleanor Garrett
Robert J. Gibbons
Nancy Greene
Barbara Grimble
Sue Gunther
Patricia Halloran
Bob Harford
Katie Hauser
Kyle Hauser
Robert Healy

Bryan Neumann
Fr. Tom O’Flanagan, Chaplain, USN
Chad Owens
Staff Sgt. Derek D. Raginon, Marines
Staff Sgt. Nick Raich, Army
Capt. Brice Roberts, Army
Maj. Andrew Rupp, Air Force
Lt. Col. Barbara Lynch
Neal Mackey
Maria Elena Marlow
Melissa Marshall
Shelly Martin

Stephen Mazzarella Jr.
Renee McCullough
Kathleen McDonald
Kelly McDowell
Bob McGlynn
Jim McNeill
Arden Miller
Margaret Morris
Jacque Morrow
Pat McIvor
Deborah Mulligan
Robert Mulligan
Gregory Mundie
Denise Murphy
Karen Murphy
Nancy Nagler
Amal Nawal
Pat Nolan
Monia Nunez
Patricia O’Hagan
Glenda Lavin O’Leary
Fior Ortiz
Mary Otis
Kevin Parise
Philip Penta
Jim Perrella
June Petrello-Henig
Mike Piotrowski
Marta Purucker
Chris Rachuba
Michael Richardson
Fred Robinson
Algis Saurusaites
Judy Sawyer
Mark Scarmazzo
Al Scerbo
Scott Schweizer
Charles Sears
John Sedor
Lorraine Seville
Ray & John Seymour
Chuck Shaw
Ray Shindorf
Richard Shorter
Linda Siepermann
Cameron Simpson
Patricia Smith
Mila Solts
Anthony Speciale
Charles Speer
Ki and Beth Spicer
Kelly Suddell
Rene Tabony
Maryann Talamo
Rebecca Timmons
Leslie Triplet
Jeana Tumbarello
Mary Turnbull
Joe Uribe
James Vannoy
Bobby Venezia, Jr.
Rosemary Ware
Albert Wiker
Felix Wilson

CS 2 Christopher Avola
Spec. Thomas Bates
Tyler Blank
Maj. Travis Blaschke, Army Aviation
PFC Adam Blazak, Army
Chris Boldey
Corporal Thomas C. Boehnlein, USMC
Angela Browning
Capt. Eric Arthur Bruns
Maj. Niccolais Chihizola, Air Force
Col. John Cross, Army
Michael Crump
1st Lt. Michael J. Culler, 101st Airborne
Josh Curtis
LCpl Giulio D’Alatri, Marines
PFC Gabriel D’Alatri, Marines
Command Sgt. Maj James Dickens, Army
Staff Sgt. Stephen Dickens, Army
1st Lt. John F. Dowd, Army
2nd Lt. Sam Dowd, Army
Capt. Michael Andrew Drytech, Army
Hanah Eastwood
Staff Sgt. Jonathan Farmer
Major Matthew Farmer, Army
Matthew Fillmon
Lt. Col. Douglas Y. Finn, USMC
Lt. Col. Jennifer Formell
PFC Chase Forrest, Army
Scott Freudenthal, Army

Merciful Father, You desire the welfare of all your children. Stretch out Your protecting arm over our men and women in the service. Shield them from every danger to body, mind and soul. Comfort them in loneliness, sustain them in hardship, give them the courage they need to fulfill their duty and so do Your will in all things. Bestow on our leaders and the leaders of the world the wisdom and prudence which will bring peace and justice to all.

This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord. Amen. Mary, help of Christians, pray for us.

PLEASE NOTE: Please call the Parish Office if you are being admitted to the hospital or know of someone in our parish who requests a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister. Names will remain on the prayer list for two months, unless notified.

PLEASE PRAY for the men and women in our armed forces stationed overseas, for the military commanders who lead them, for President Trump and his advisors and for,

Darrin Gabriel
Private Matthew Gainey
Lance Cpl Tyler Geary, USMC
LT Ruth Gaunt, Navy
Michael Gorczynski
Michael Gordon-Tenant, Army
PFC Thomas Greenia, Army
PFC Thomas Grodeska, Army
Capt. Matthew Guidone, Army
Capt. Thomas Harris, Army
Major Cornelius Hickey, USMC
Capt. Kristine Hochschwender
Lt. Tyler Hochschwender

Captain Steve Irving, 101 First Airborne
Sgt. Christian Marino Jakobsen, USMC
Capt. Mitchell Joslin, Army Ranger
Capt. Jeff Keating, Marines
Captain Karl Kuechenmeister, Army
Spencer Calvin McGuire
Brian Metzger
2nd Lt. Andrew King, Army
Major Jennifer Lammert-Rupp
Capt. Kelly Lammert, Air Force
Private Joseph LaSasso, Army
Master Sgt. Kyle Mack
Daniel Malloy, USMC
Matthew March C.P.O. Navy
Ens. Daniel Mongiove, Navy