THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | NOVEMBER 30, 2025

THE WEEKLY COMPASS

St. John's Episcopal Church & Parish Day School



A throwback to the Christmas Pageant from a few years ago!
There are still spots available in this year's Children's Pageant at the 3 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass.
Keep reading in The Compass to learn more!

PIC OF THE WEEK:

Children's Christmas Pageant

Have a Pic of the Week? We'd love to feature it! Email your photo to Mthr. Caroline at cdevitt@stjohnstampa.org.



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN'S

Welcome to this holy season of Advent. Here is a brief snapshot of what's ahead at St. John's:

Adult Education: Advent Carols – Sundays in Advent, after 9:30 a.m. Mass

St. Nick Party – Dec 3, 6:00 p.m.

Advent Wreath Making – Dec 7, after 9:30 a.m. Mass

Advent Lessons & Carols – Dec 7, 5:00 p.m.

Dec 24 – Christmas Eve

- 3:00 p.m. Family Mass with Children's Pageant
- 5:00 p.m. Festive Mass
- 11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass (Prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.)

Christmas Day Mass – Dec 25, 10:00 a.m.

We look forward to celebrating this holy season with you.

Worship at St. Johns

Sundays: Rite I at 8:00 a.m. | *Rite II at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School is offered for all ages after the 9:30 a.m. service
**Livestream Options: Website | Facebook | YouTube*
Wednesdays & Thursdays: Holy Eucharist at 12:15 p.m.
The Reverend John R. Peterson Chapel
The Chapel of the Resurrection, located in the courtyard, is open 24/7 for prayer

Need a Nametag?

Wearing your nametag each Sunday helps us connect. Keep it in your car so it's always with you!
If you need one, email Donna Gem at dgem@stjohnstampa.org.

Adult Formation: The Carols of Advent

Our Advent Formation series begins this morning after the 9:30 a.m. service. Throughout the season, the clergy and staff of St. John's will explore the theological significance and history of some of our most beloved Advent carols. Join Fr. Andrew in the Parish Hall today as he begins the series with a look at "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." All warmly invited to attend.



Ordination of "Chaplain HQ"

Miranda Channing Harrison-Quillin, Chaplain to St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School, will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons.
Monday, Dec 1, 2025 • 7:00 p.m.
Cathedral Church of St. Peter, 140 Fourth St N, St. Petersburg
The Rt. Rev. Douglas F. Scharf, presiding.
Your prayers and presence are requested.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day at St. John's

December 24 – Christmas Eve
· 3:00 p.m. – Family Mass with Children's Pageant
· 5:00 p.m. – Festive Christmas Eve Mass
· 10:30 p.m. – Festive Prelude Concert
· 11:00 p.m. – Midnight Mass

December 25 – Christmas Day
· 10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
All are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord.

ST. JOHN'S
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

2026 PLEDGE REMINDER

Thank you to the 200+ households who have already pledged for 2026. Your generosity supports the mission and ministry of St. John's and helps us plan faithfully for the year ahead. If you haven't made your pledge yet, we invite you to do so. Every pledge, no matter the size, strengthens our shared life in Christ.

Scan the code to make your pledge today:



Dedications

The Church Altar Advent Greenery are given to the Glory of God
by John, Thomas, and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Mary-Teresa Reffue; and by John, Thomas, and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Thomas Loren.
The Chapel Altar Advent Greenery are given to the Glory of God
by John, Thomas, and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Lyle and Ruth Reffue; and by John, Thomas, and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Louis and Julia Tropia.
The Candle in the Sanctuary Light is given to the Glory of God
by John, Thomas, and Jessie Reffue in thanksgiving for the blessings of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To sponsor altar flowers or the sanctuary candle in memory or thanksgiving, contact parish@stjohnstampa.org or call 813.259.1570
Suggested donations: Church Altar Flowers: $50 | Chapel Altar Flowers: $35 | Sanctuary Candle: $20
Available dates: December 7, 14, & 21

ST. NICHOLAS PARTY

St. John's Parish Hall | Dec. 3 | 6:00 p.m.

All children who donate to St. John's FYI will recieve a gift from St. Nick himself!

*This year, we're requesting Uber and grocery gift cards to support CarePortal needs and transportation for Madi's Movement young adults.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT CAST

The cast for this year's St. John's Christmas Pageant—a beloved tradition presented during the 3:00 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve—has been announced, but there are still several roles available.
If your child would like to participate, we would be glad to include them.
For more information, contact Ayana at *AGrady@stjohnstampa.org*.



Advent Lessons and Carols

December 7th | 5:00 p.m.

Lessons and Carols is a beautiful service of scripture and song that invites us to pause, listen, and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Advent Wreath Making

Sunday, December 7

Join us after the 9:30 a.m. service for Advent Wreath Making! All supplies will be provided—just bring your creativity and enjoy this meaningful way to prepare your hearts and homes for the season of Advent.

ADULT FORMATION

Tue.	Zoom	CWBS (Contemporary Women's Bible Study)	06:00 PM
		tampasal@gmail.com	
Wed.	Zoom	Wednesday Adult Formation	03:30 PM
		parish@stjohnstampa.org	
Thurs.	Lowry Room	Men's Bible Study	11:45 AM
		dlrncrtpa@verizon.net	
Alternate Tue.	Lowry Room	Women's Mid-Morning Bible Study	10:00 AM
		harpwings@aol.com	

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sunday School

All Sunday School students and teachers will go first for Communion, and then come into the side hallway for Check-In and nametags.

Friendsgiving EYC Tonight
5-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Join us Thanksgiving weekend for a fun celebration of youth group friends and family! This will be a combined (6th-12th grade) EYC.

Stay up to date with our newsletters:

Youth:

Children:

SAVE THE DATES

Feast of St. Andrew Mass	Deacon Ordination	St. Nick Party	Advent Wreath Making	Advent Lessons & Carols
Dec 1 | Chapel Join us at 12:15 p.m. for Holy Eucharist in observance of this major feast.	**Dec 1 | Cathedral Church of St. Peter** Join us at 7:00 p.m. for the Ordination of Chaplain Miranda Channing Harrison-Quillin ("Chaplain HQ") to the Sacred Order of Deacons. Your prayers and presence are invited for this joyful occasion.	**Dec 3 | Parish Hall** Join us at 6:00 p.m. for our St. Nick Party! Children who give to FYI* will receive a gift from St. Nick. **This year we're collecting Uber and grocery gift cards for CarePortal and Madi's Movement.*	**Dec 7 | Parish Hall** Join us after the 9:30 a.m. service for Advent Wreath Making! All supplies are provided—just bring your creativity and enjoy this meaningful way to prepare for Advent.	**Dec 7 | Church** Join us at 5:00 p.m. for Advent Lessons and Carols, a beloved service of scripture and song that prepares our hearts for the coming of Christ. A reception will follow.

Scan for online Bulletins, *The Compass*, and *The Scroll*

Blessing of a Child

Parents of newborns may schedule this brief service of thanksgiving (BCP p.439). The Newborn Celebration Ministry also delivers gift baskets to families with newborns—please notify the office of any births. Contact: *parish@stjohnstampa.org* | Lois Smith: *rstlrsmom2@aol.com*

Stay Connected

Weekly Email – Subscribe to *The Weekly Scroll* by emailing Mthr. Caroline at *cdevitt@stjohnstampa.org*

Social Media – Follow us @stjohnstampa on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube

Sermons – Watch weekly sermons on YouTube, Facebook, or via the link in our Instagram bio

Pastoral Care

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or preparing for surgery, please let us know. Hospitals cannot contact us due to privacy laws.

To notify us or request pastoral care:

Parish Office: 813.259.1570 | *parish@stjohnstampa.org*

Pastoral Emergencies: 813.726.3108

Fr. Chris: 917.822.9741

Fr. Andrew: 713.302.6262

Mthr. Caroline: 941.320.6686

Dcn. Mary Alice: 813.493.8337

Fr. Goodheart: 321.446.4934

Give

Support our ministry with a one-time or recurring gift:

Online: *stjohnstampa.org/stewardship*

Text: Text **SJE** to **73256**

QR Code: *Scan here*