THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 7, 2025

THE WEEKLY COMPASS

St. John's Episcopal Church & Parish Day School



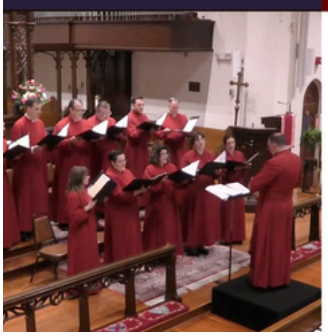
A joyful evening at St. John's as children, families, and parishioners gathered for our annual St. Nick Party. From gifts for our Foster Youth Initiative to pizza, cake, and a visit from St. Nicholas himself, it was a beautiful night of fellowship and generosity.

PIC OF THE WEEK:

St. Nicholas Party

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

TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S



TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

Join us **after the 9:30 a.m.** service for **Advent Wreath Making** in the Parish Hall. This parish-wide tradition is a wonderful way for individuals, families, and children of all ages to begin the season together. Come create, connect, and enjoy the start of Advent with your St. John's community. Then return this evening for **Advent Lessons and Carols at 5:00 p.m.** This uniquely Anglican service, rooted in the tradition of King's College, Cambridge, weaves together scripture and music to trace the hope and longing of God's people as we prepare for Christ's coming. **Scan the QR code** for a personal invitation from our Organist and Director of Music, Simon Morley. **A reception will follow the service**.

Worship at St. Johns

Sundays: Rite I at 8:00 a.m. | *Rite II at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School returns next week for all ages
**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.

Christmas Eve & Christmastide at St. John's



Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant with Holy Eucharist, Rite II *

5:00 p.m. Choral Eucharist with Holy Eucharist, Rite II *

10:30 p.m. Festive Prelude Christmas Concert

11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass with Holy Eucharist, Rite I

** Nursery Available*

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Congregational Carols

Christmastide

December 26—January 6

The Parish Office will be closed 12/24 and reopen 12/29 and will close again 12/31 and reopen 1/2. Weekday Masses continue in the Rev. John R Peterson Chapel on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

The Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (Patronal Feast)

Saturday, December 27

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Rev. John R. Peterson Chapel

The Feast of the Holy Innocents

Monday, December 29

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Rev. John R. Peterson Chapel

Please Note: There will be no 12:15 p.m. Healing Mass on New Year's Day, 1/1.

The Feast of the Epiphany

Tuesday, January 6

6:00 p.m. Solemn High Mass with Holy Eucharist, Rite I in the Church



Dedications

The Church Altar Advent Greenery are given to the Glory of God
by Evelyn, Sacha & Charles in loving memory of Charles A. Harden;
and by John, Thomas and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Mary-Teresa Reffue.

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 Louis and Julia Tropia.

The Candle in the Sanctuary Light is given to the Glory of God
John, Thomas and Jessie Reffue in loving memory of Thomas Loren.

To sponsor altar flowers or the sanctuary candle in memory or thanksgiving, contact ssantos@stjohnstampa.org or call 813.259.1570

Suggested donations: Church Altar Flowers: $50 | Chapel Altar Flowers: $35 | Sanctuary Candle: $20

Available dates: December 21 & 28 and January 11, 18, & 25

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.

"DO YOU DESIRE TO BE BAPTIZED?"

-BCP pg 301

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church—a bond that can never be broken. Our next opportunity for baptism will be on the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 11.** A baptism preparation class will be held on January 4, with a rehearsal on January 10.

EMAIL SAMI SANTOS (*ssantos@stjohnstampa.org*)
to learn more or to arrange a baptism for yourself or a loved one



St. John's Lenten Devotional

Advent is a wonderful time to begin preparing our hearts for the next penitential season of the Church year. St. John's will again publish a Lenten devotional written by members of our congregation, and you are invited to contribute a reflection of up to one page. A brief Zoom info session with writing tips and Q&A will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 11. Devotionals are due Wednesday, January 21. For details and the Zoom link, please contact Scott Neumeister (*scottneumeister@hotmail.com*) or Marci Thomas (*marcithomas2018@gmail.com*).

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:

ADULT FORMATION

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

CHILDREN & YOUTH

No Sunday School This Morning!
Bring the whole family and join us in the Parish Hall for Advent Wreath making!

No EYC Tonight!
Join us for Advent Lessons and Carols at 5:00 p.m. and support the four Children/Youth who will be reading lessons at the service! We will gather next week for our Tacky Christmas Sweater Party.

Stay up to date with our newsletters:

Youth:

Children:

SAVE THE DATES

The Men's Gathering	YoPros Christmas Party	Feast of the Epiphany	Candlemas Eucharist	Jumbalya and Jazz
Dec 17 | Four Green Fields | 5:30 p.m. Join other men of St. John's as we continue reading through *The Screwtape Letters*. *Please Note: We are meeting on Wednesday this month.* Contact: *alazo@stjohnstampa.org*	**Dec 17 | 7:00 p.m.** Join other Young Professionals for a Christmas Party/PowerPoint night! Keep an eye out for a YoPros email and reach out with questions or to be added to the email list. Contact: *cdevitt@stjohnstampa.org*	**Jan 6 | Church** Join us at 6:00 p.m. for a Solemn High Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany as we celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the nations. Chant and beautiful Anglican liturgy will mark this holy evening. All are invited to worship with us as we enter this radiant season of revelation.	**Feb 2 | Church** Join us at 12:15 p.m. for a said mass with hymns to celebrate Candlemas (aka the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ). All are warmly invited to attend.	**Feb 17 | Courtyard** Save the date for St. John's Third Annual Jambalaya & Jazz celebration on Fat Tuesday/Shrove Tuesday. Join us for an evening of food, music, and festive fellowship as we prepare to enter the season of Lent. More details to come.

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*