



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

906 South Orleans Avenue ♦ Tampa, Florida 33606-2941

Our mission is to proclaim, by word and example,
the good news of God in Christ, and to build a spiritual community
forming Christians of all ages through worship, education, and outreach.

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Holy Eucharist Rite II - 9:30am
January 5, 2025

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the house of God.
Before the service speak to the Lord; during the service let the Lord speak to you;
After the service speak to one another.*

The Rector's Welcome

“Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with love and awe. Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.”

Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? Have you ever sat back and contemplated that line from the famous Christmas hymn *O Come all ye Faithful*? Take some time this Christmas season, which begins on Christmas Eve and ends on January 6th with the feast of the Epiphany, to ponder the miracle of the Incarnation. God among us, the creator living as part of his creation.

God so humbled himself that his very word lived, moved, worked, laughed, cried, bled, and loved as a human being, all so that he could redeem his creation and bring that creation into communion with God and the rest of the heavenly host. On Christmas, we remember the beginning of the final stage of God's rescue mission for us all. This Child, who in all ways seems so insignificant, is the savior of the world. O come, let us adore him! Merry Christmas to you all. May the word of God dwell within all our hearts.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Chris Wood" with a small cross at the end.

The Rev. Christian M. Wood

The people stand as the Ministers enter

Processional Hymn *Once in royal David's city*

Irby

IRBY 87 87 77

H. J. Gauntlett 1805-76
Revised by A. H. Mann 1850-1929
and Editors

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Once in royal David's city'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is written in a simple, accessible style, with a clear melody in the treble and a supporting bass line. The first system covers the first two lines of the lyrics, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final two lines.

1 Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

2 He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

4 And our eyes at last shall see him
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

5 *Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall we see him: but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

PROPER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE 96

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

See him in a manger laid
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people sit

THE LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Lector A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel.' Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her who is in travail, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and E'phraim is my first-born. "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands afar off; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.' For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. Then shall the maidens

rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the Lord."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84:1-8 (*Coverdale translation*)

Sir Hubert Parry

Sung by the choir

O how amiable are thy dwellings : thou Lord of hosts!

*2 My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord :
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.*

*3 Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young :
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.*

4 Blessed are they that dwell in thy house : they will be alway praising thee.

5 Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee : in whose heart are thy ways.

6 Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well : and the pools are filled with water.

7 They will go from strength to strength :

and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.

8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer : hearken, O God of Jacob.

9 Behold, O God our defender : and look upon the face of thine Anointed.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Lector A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand

Pre-K and Elementary School-aged children now follow the cross to Children's Chapel

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him."

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The people sit

THE SERMON

Father Wood

THE NICENE CREED (*standing*)

Celebrant and people

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Form IV)*

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit especially those in hospital, ____ and those in hospice____; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died [especially ____;] [and for _____ in whose memory the altar flowers are given; that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds this concluding collect

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us
and forgive us; that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people sit

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offertory Sentence

The people stand

Offertory Anthem *Unto us is born a son*

Arr. Sir David Willcocks

*Unto us is born a Son,
King of choirs supernal,
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal.*

*Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger:
Ox and ass their Owner know
Becradled in a manger.*

*This did Herod sore affray
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay
And slew the little childer.*

*Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story,
And oh! that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory!*

*"O" and "A" and "A" and "O",
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go:
Benedicamus Domino.*

6. "All glory be to God on high
and on earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease."

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer B*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus S128

William Mathias

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people remain standing as they are able

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and people

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread after which the following anthem is said

Fraction Anthem S-165 Pascha Nostrum

William Mathias

Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.



*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.
If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing
(indicated by crossing your arms over your chest).*

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

or with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]

Communion Motet *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*
Sung by the choir

Michael Praetorius

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.*

*O flower, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendour
the darkness everywhere;
true man, yet very God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind,
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright
she bore to men a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God,

heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the ✠blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon gives the Dismissal.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Processional Hymn 278

Rustington

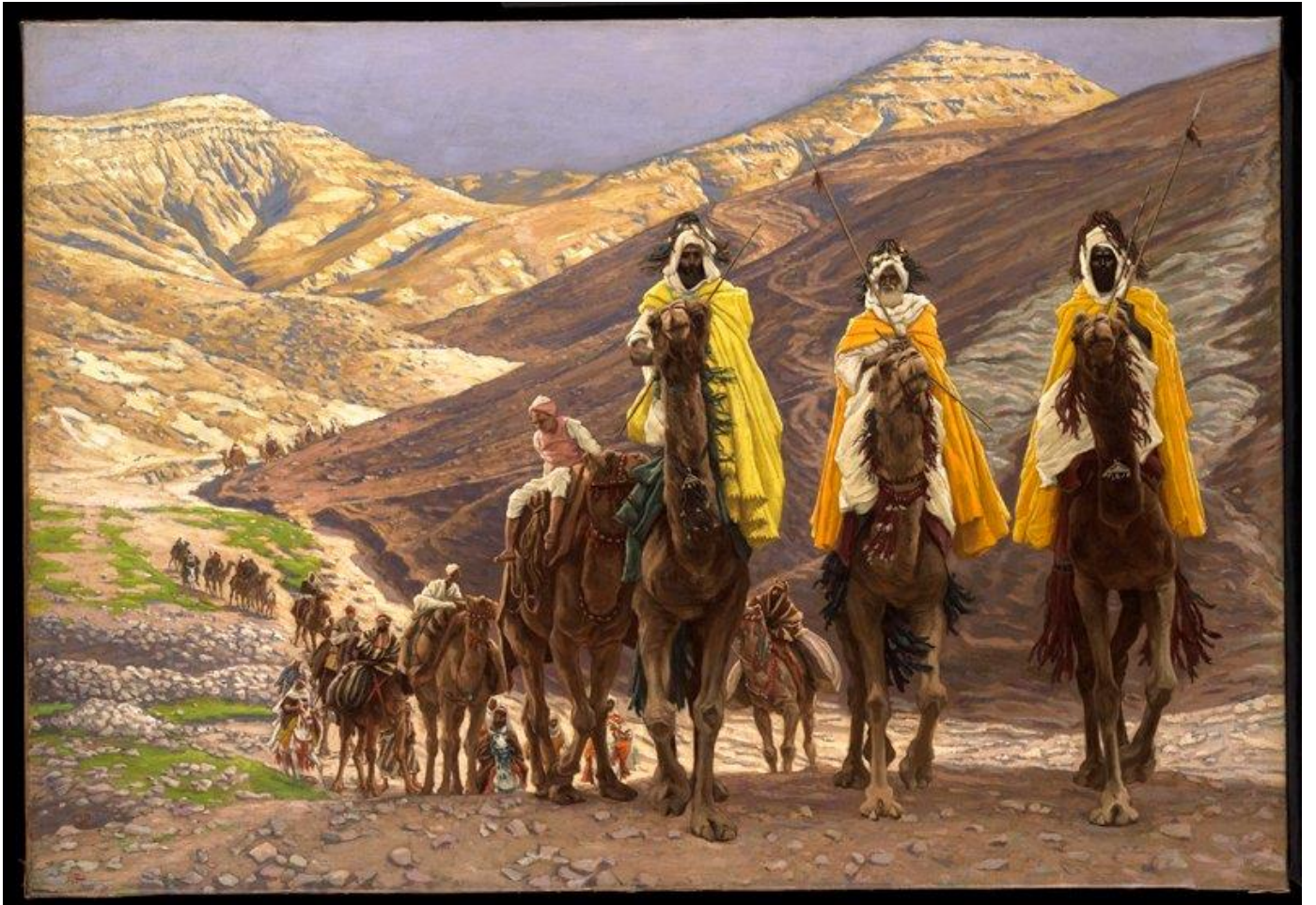
1 Sing we of the bless - ed Mo - ther who re - ceived the an - gel's
 2 Sing we, too, of Ma - ry's sor - rows, of the sword that pierced her
 3 Sing a - gain the joys of Ma - ry when she saw the ris - en
 4 Sing the chief - est joy of Ma - ry when on earth her work was

word, and o - be - dient to the sum - mons bore in
 through, when be - neath the cross of Je - sus she his
 Lord, and in prayer with Christ's a - pos - tles, wait - ed
 done, and the Lord of all cre - a - tion brought her

love the in - fant Lord; sing we of the joys of
 weight of suf - fering knew, looked up - on her Son and
 on his prom - ised word; from on high the blaz - ing
 to his heaven - ly home; where, raised high with saints and

Ma - ry at whose breast the child was fed who is
 Sa - vior reign - ing from the aw - ful tree, saw the
 glo - ry of the Spi - rit's pres - ence came, heaven - ly
 an - gels, in Je - ru - sa - lem a - bove, she be -

Son of God e - ter - nal and the ev - er - last - ing Bread.
 price of our re - demp - tion paid to set the sin - ner free.
 breath of God's own bc - ing, man - i - fest in wind and flame.
 holds her son and Sa - vior reign - ing as the Lord of love.



James Tissot, *The Journey of the Magi*, oil on canvas, ca. 1894, Minneapolis Institute of Art.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

AND Episcopal Parish Day School

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STJOHNSTAMPA.ORG

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

THE RIGHT REVEREND DOUGLAS FREDERICK SCHARF

VI Bishop of Southwest Florida

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Senior Warden

ANDREW M. BROWN (2025)

Junior Warden

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THE CLERGY AND STAFF

THE REVEREND CHRISTIAN M. WOOD

XVII Rector

THE REVEREND DALE W. VAN WORMER
Associate Priest for Liturgy and Formation

THE REVEREND CHARLES E. CONNELLY

Retired Priest in Residence

SIMON J. MORLEY

Organist and Director of Music

LAURIE D. LAWTHER

Parish Administrator

JANICE A. DE PINTO

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Sexton

THE REVEREND JOHN R. PETERSON

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THE REVEREND MARY ALICE LOPEZ

Deacon

THE REVEREND TANIA M. WILKES

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AYANA S. GRADY

*Director of Children, Youth &
Family Ministries*