



# The Weekly Compass

St. John's Episcopal Church and Parish Day School

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2024

## Worship at St. John's Today

8:00 a.m. The Holy Eucharist (Rite I) in the Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Parish Hall.

*Children's Chapel will take place in the Chapel during the 9:30 a.m. service*

*Sunday School for children takes place after the 9:30 a.m. service (except the fourth Sunday), as does expanded Coffee Hour fellowship for adults*

## Worship and Formation During the Week

### The Holy Eucharist

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in the Chapel at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, on Thursdays with Healing Prayers. **Note updated time on Thursdays.**

### Adult Faith Formation

#### Women's Mid Morning Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays

This group meets on alternate Tuesdays in the Lowry Room during the school year. Contact Pat Wilson at [patwilson68@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:patwilson68@tampabay.rr.com) to learn more. PAUSED UNTIL JANUARY

#### Contemporary Women's Bible Study: 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays

CWBS holds a weekly study on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Sally Thompson at [tampasal@gmail.com](mailto:tampasal@gmail.com) to get the link.

#### Wednesday Afternoon Adult Formation: 3:30 p.m.

The group meets on Wednesdays on Zoom. Contact the Parish Office at [parish@stjohnstampa.org](mailto:parish@stjohnstampa.org) for more information and the link.

#### Men's Interactive Bible Study and Lunch: 11:45 a.m. on Thursdays

The group meets in the Lowry Room to discuss readings for the upcoming Sunday. Questions? Contact Lanny Russell at [dlrncrtpa@verizon.net](mailto:dlrncrtpa@verizon.net).

### Youth and Children's Ministries

EYC meets on Sunday afternoons during the school year. The nursery is open at services year-round. Sunday School for children takes place following the 9:30 a.m. service (except the fourth Sunday) during the school year. Contact Youth Minister Ayana Grady at [agrad@stjohnstampa.org](mailto:agrad@stjohnstampa.org) to learn more!

### Service Notes

Our regular Sunday services are the Holy Eucharist, Rite I, at 8:00 a.m. and the Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at 9:30 a.m. The 9:30 a.m. is streamed live [on Facebook](#), [on our website](#) and [on YouTube](#).

### Sunday Sermons

Available [on our YouTube channel](#) and from the link in our bio [on Instagram](#).

### Pastoral Care

**Parish Office:** 813.259.1570

**Pastoral Emergencies:**  
813.726.3108

**Fr. Chris:** 917.822.9741

**Deacon Lopez:** 813.493.8337

**Fr. Dale:** 607.481.4702

**Deacon Tania:** 443.742.7542

**Fr. Goodheart:** 321.446.4934

### Giving to St. John's

There are many ways to make a one-time or recurring gift to our parish. Visit [stjohnstampa.org/stewardship](http://stjohnstampa.org/stewardship) to give online. You can give safely by text. In the "To" field of the text message, type **73256**. Then in the message, type **SJE**. You will immediately receive a text back with a link to complete payment. Or use the QR code!



## Stay in Touch with St. John's!

Want to receive our e-newsletter, the *Weekly Wednesday Scroll*? Contact us at [lowry@stjohnstampa.org](mailto:lowry@stjohnstampa.org). You can also stay in touch on [our Facebook page](#) or [Instagram](#) and subscribe to [our YouTube channel](#), all @stjohnstampa!

# Compass Points

## 2024 Christmas Schedule and December and January Feast Days

### Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

3:00 p.m. Children's Pageant with Holy Eucharist (Rite II) at St. John's School Middle Division Gymnasium, 240 South Plant Avenue. **There will be no nursery provided at this service.**

6:00 p.m. Sung Eucharist (Rite II) with the Choir of St. John's, in the Parish Hall \*

11:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Midnight Mass with the Choir of St. John's, in the Parish Hall

### Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) with Congregational Carols, in the Parish Hall

### Feast Day Services Following Christmas (in the Chapel)

The Feast of St. Stephen

Thursday, December 26 — 12:15 p.m. with healing prayers

The Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Friday, December 27 — 12:15 p.m.

Holy Innocents

Saturday, December 28 — 10:00 a.m.

The Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

Wednesday, January 1 — 12:15 p.m.

The Epiphany

Monday, January 6 — 12:15 p.m.

\* Nursery provided for children 3 and under

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## Support Your Parish With a Gift of Securities

Appreciated securities make a fantastic gift to the Operating Fund, the Endowment, or our building renovations. You may be eligible to take advantage of a two-fold tax savings. First, you avoid paying any capital gains tax on the increase in value of your stock. In addition, you receive a tax deduction for the full fair market value of the stock on the date of the gift. Laurie Lawther, our Parish Administrator, is available to help you make a gift of stock both quick and convenient. Please contact her at 813.259.1570.

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## Pledge Envelopes Available — Please come pick up yours!

Pledge envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Parish Office during the week from 9 am to 4 pm Mondays through Thursdays (except for Christmas and New Year's weeks) and on Sundays.

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## Outreach Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who submitted a response to the Outreach Survey. It has closed at this time and we look forward to sharing the results from both the survey and the Outreach Olive Tree Forum after the holidays. We appreciate your vital feedback about what you value most about St. John's service, where you see opportunities, and what you envision for our future. We look forward to your continued input and involvement and to seeing where you are called to glorify God in our community.

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## Moving Forward In Mission: Stewardship 2025

In Fr. Chris' letter about this year's stewardship campaign, he notes: "Saint John's has spent much time, talent, and treasure figuring out what our future will look like. It is now time for us to begin to look outward into our community, and *Move Forward in Mission*. To accomplish these goals, we first must establish a budget, and to do that, we need to have your commitment to St. John's for this coming year. Please give generously so that we can give generously back to our community. [You can find all the options for giving on our website.](#) Let's begin *Moving Forward in Mission*."

## **Prayer Requests**

*Your prayers are bid today and throughout the week for:*

**All bishops and other ministers:** Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; the clergy and staff of our parish.

**Those who govern:** Joseph, our President; Ronald, our Governor; and Jane, our Mayor;

**The sick and others for whom our prayers have been especially requested:**

Maureen and Ken Johnston; Jackie Faircloth and family; Jeff LeVines; Pam, Shailee, and Courtney; Anna, her family and her medical team; Jayce Hicks; Richard; Michael Wood; Tor, Angie, Nancy, Collin, Lee, David, Sam, Absley, Karin, Jim B., Katy, Tom, Sue J., Jim H., Mike M., Kitty D., Patrick D., McKenzie N., Hillary M., Eloise, Marjorie, Nancy M., Peggy C., Ron, Rev. John Peterson, David R., Yvonne S., John B., Suzanne and Cary, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

**The departed:**

*Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**Our Companion Diocese in the Dominican Republic**

**Our Parish Day School**

**Our Pastoral Care Team**

**Those celebrating the anniversary of their birth:**

December 22, Tricia Hancock, Stephen Swindal, Jr., Pat Wilson, JoAnna Hall, Anne Williams, Eric Stoll

December 23, none

December 24, none

December 25, Harry Hedges

December 26, Kim Wiese, Amy Yost, Constance Severn

December 27, none

December 28, Caden Hearing, Kevin Kellar, Jerry Maya, Graham Thomason, Isla Barnes

**The members of our armed forces deployed abroad and their families,** especially Rich, Mike, Jake, Matthew, and Rusty.

**The people and peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land.**

**Healthcare workers, first responders, and all others whose work puts them in danger.** We give thanks for their many sacrifices for the common good. Protect them from injury and illness; renew their wisdom, compassion, and strength.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Diocese of Southwest Florida — The Rt. Rev. Douglas F. Scharf; Companion Diocese of the Dominican Republic; Companion Diocese of Georgia; Companion Diocese of South Carolina; Companion Diocese of Western Louisiana; Retired clergy of the Diocese of Southwest Florida; Episcopal Charities of Southwest Florida; Episcopal Schools in the Diocese of Southwest Florida, and the seminarians of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of the Province of Uganda

## **ASSISTING IN THE SERVICES**

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jan Williams, Gwyb Schabacker, Chris McAdams, Debbie Tozier, Jan Kelley, Madeleine Tellekamp, Liz Pickette

**LINENS:** Laura Lackman

**ACOLYTES:** 8:00 Dr. Greg Gaar 9:30 Declan Keller, Grace Tellekamp, Allison Decelles, Trenten DeCelles

**LECTORS:** 8:00 Betsy Wood; 9:30 Steve Straske, Paul Brokaw, M.C. Jenkins;

**CHALICE BEARERS:** 9:30 Clergy

**USHERS:** 8:00 George Sprenkle, Charles Harden; 9:30 Keith Lindquist, Norm Allen, Cary Brown, Roger Kurz, Eric Williams, Bruce Yost

**VERGER:** Dr. Greg Gaar

## **FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

The Church Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God by Amanda Samson in thanksgiving for Adajean Samson and in loving memory of Bruce Samson.

The Church Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God by Susie Burchill in thanksgiving for her parents, George and Nancy Burchill.

The Chapel Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God by Greg and Kamra Hearing in thanksgiving for the life of Caden Kenneth Hearing .



Photo Credit:: Philippe de Champaigne, The Visitation, oil on canvas, 1643-1648, Princeton University Art Museum.