



# The Weekly Compass

St. John's Episcopal Church and Parish Day School

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY

DECEMBER 15, 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) and an abridged Service of Lessons and Carols in the Parish Hall.

*Children's Chapel will take place in the Lowry Room 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*

### 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](#).

## 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 both services year-round. Sunday School for children takes place following the 9:30 a.m. service during the school year. Contact Youth

### 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

### 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

### Monday, January 6, 2024, The Epiphany

12:15 p.m. Said Mass for the Feast, in the Chapel

\* Nursery provided for children 3 and under

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## Christmas Poinsettia Dedications

The deadline for poinsettia flower dedications for Christmas is tomorrow, **Monday, December 16**. Please send dedications worded exactly as you wish to [jdepinto@stjohnstampa.org](mailto:jdepinto@stjohnstampa.org).

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## Weekday Service Updates

We are excited to announce that we will return to the Chapel for our weekday services starting this week! ALL weekday services will now take place at 12:15 p.m., including the Thursday Mass with healing prayers. Our hope is that with the standardization of the weekday services at 12:15 p.m. more people may have the opportunity to gather for worship as we seek to encounter the risen Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist throughout the week.

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## Cornerstone Kids Christmas Party

The children will have a fun-filled afternoon on Thursday, December 19, entertaining parents and friends with a lively short program, offering refreshments, and receiving presents from "Santa's helpers" at St. John's and Bikes from the Heart. Join them at 3:45 p.m. at St. James House of Prayer, 2708 Central Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602!

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## Pledge Envelopes Available

Pledge envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Parish Office during the week during regular hours and on Sundays.

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## Lenten Devotions Requested

Calling interested parishioners to write Lenten Devotions for St. John's Lenten Devotion Guide! Right now we are seeking commitments from individuals or families to write a short devotion for the Guide. The devotions are not due until mid-January. We will provide instructions, examples, and any assistance you may need. Our Guide is a very special part of many of our parishioners' Lenten experience. The best devotions are less than a page and while based on scripture, come from the heart. Please contact Marci Thomas ([marcithomas2018@gmail.com](mailto:marcithomas2018@gmail.com)) or Scott Neumeister ([scottneumeister@hotmail.com](mailto:scottneumeister@hotmail.com)) to sign up or for more information.

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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; PamShailee; 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:** Paul Weekley

*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 15, Peggy Thompson, Marty Angiulli, Hayden Atzenhoefer, Caroline Diaz

December 16, Bridget Wiese, Andrew Mason, Samuel Shoukry

December 17, Lynn Rydene, Guy King, IV, Jackson Andrews, Molly Grimard

December 18, Ronnie Goodheart

December 19, Paul Keesling, Lora Hulse, Marilin Espino-Maya, Evan Lick, Keith Bexley, Molly Frazier

December 20, Grayson Leal, Bob Gaudsmith, Walker Martin, Ivy Gustafson, Nate Lacktman, Taylor Moore, Meagan Dorsch

December 21, Mike Webb

**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; Diocesan House, DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center and St. Thomas Chapel; St. Anselm's Chapel, University of South Florida Chapel Center; Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers; Episcopal College Chaplaincies: College of Florida Chaplaincy, Bradenton, and Clergy spouses and widows of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church of Tanzania

## ASSISTING IN THE SERVICES

**ALTAR GUILD:** Pat Wilson, Lelia Clewis, Heddy Brown, Sally Olsson, Susan Lang, Ruth Pasquarello, Marci Thomas, Ruby McCowan

**LINENS:** Pat Rice, Chris McAdams

**ACOLYTES:** 8:00 Eric Williams 9:30 Rowan Cruse, Taylor Johnson, Frankie Gardner, Cindy Gardner

**LECTORS:** 8:00 Richard Hadlow; 9:30 Lisa Leal, Norm Allen, Drew Graham;

9:30 Lessons & Carols: Lisa Leal, Norm Allen, Simon Morley, Nick Wells

**CHALICE BEARERS:** 9:30 Clergy

**USHERS:** 8:00 Oliver Roberts, Lockwood Gray; 9:30 Paul Carastro, David Adams, Bob Alter, Joe Andrews, John Jenkins, Rob Kelly

**VERGER:** Eric Williams

## FLOWER DEDICATIONS

**The Church Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God** by Susan Lang in celebration of, and with thanksgiving for, the 17th anniversary of the ordination to the priesthood of Fr. Connelly.

**The Chapel Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God** by the Grotz, Merritt and Kercher families in loving memory of our Mother/Grandmother, Mary Lou Grotz.

**The Chapel Altar Advent Greenery is given to the Glory of God** by Mary and Ron Hulse in thanksgiving for our special family.



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