



Saint John The Evangelist Catholic Church
Third Sunday of Advent | December 14, 2025
1008 Fortune Ave, Panama City, FL 32401
St. John the Baptist, Alvise Vivarini, 1475

WHO WE ARE



Rev. Thomas Kennell, Pastor



Dcn. Timothy Warner



Dcn. Earl Mirus



Sr. Grace Ford, Er. Dio - Principal

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil | 4:30pm

Sunday | 8:15am & 10:45am

Daily Mass

Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 8:15am

Tuesday, Thursday | 5:30pm

First Saturdays | 9:00 Latin *Novus Ordo*

Adoration

First Fridays | 9am-5pm

Confession

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 4:30-5:20pm

Saturdays | 3:00-4:15pm

Second Sundays | After Each Mass

To schedule a confession, email confession@saintjohnnpc.org. Emails are confidential and go directly to Fr. Kennell

Flocknote

Text STJ to 84576

Receive text message or email announcements

Parish Council

Christine Macejka	Diane Skoriak	Steve Shea
Olivia Clemons	Marilyn Percy	Rob Griffith
John Maceluch Jr.	Lonn Blankenship	

Register as a Member

Visit the parish office

To register as a parishioner, contact the parish office for a registration card

Parish Staff

Parish Office - 850-763-1821

saintjohnnpc@saintjohnnpc.org

Open Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm

Grace Griffith | Secretary

Lynn Sokoloski | Facilities Manager

Heather Hanna | Event Coordinator

Jera Blanchard-Towns | Family & Children's Catechesis

Dot Wagner | Coordinator of Youth Formation

Nick Labrie | Director of Mission Operations

Me-Gan Vu | Director of Sacred Music

***Bulletin Requests:** Please email bulletin@saintjohnnpc.org. Submissions are due by noon on Mondays.*

***Bulletin Ad Requests:** To publish an ad in the back of our bulletin, contact Mary Frericks at 404-771-2564 or MFrericks@Diocesan.com*

Finance Council

Chris Brooks | Finance Council Chair

Jackie Fowler

Dcn. Earl Mirus

Sean McNeil

Tim Wheeler

Sr. Grace Ford

Donna Couchigian

SACRAMENTAL QUESTIONS?

Children | Through 5th Grade

Jera Blanchard-Towns | Children's Catechesis

jera.blanchard-towns@saintjohnnpc.org

Contact for questions regarding Baptism, First Communion, First Reconciliation, & Living Liturgically (formation program for grades K-5)

Youth | Grades 6-12

Dot Wagner | Youth Formation

youth@saintjohnnpc.org

Contact for Confirmation and questions regarding Catholic Student Ministries (CSM)

Adults | 18+

Fr. Thomas Kennell | Pastor

catholicism@saintjohnnpc.org

Contact for questions regarding Adult Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion

Visiting the Sick/Homebound - please call the parish office to set up a visit with a priest or lay person to bring communion or check on a homebound person

Anointing of the Sick - call the parish office at any time

Holy Matrimony - contact the parish office six months prior to your anticipated wedding date

*The Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee encourages anyone who may have been abused by any clergy person, employee, or volunteer in ministry with the Church, or who knows of such abuse, to contact local law enforcement or the Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873) and Shannon D. Mullen, Ph.D. CSAT at 229-233-8009. Español - Dcn. Santiago Molina, 850-222-6482

ADVENT 2025

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come To Thee O Israel.

Advent Penance Service

December 16th | 6:30-8pm

Join us for our parish Advent Penance Service, a graced opportunity to prepare your heart for Christmas. Four priests from around the area will be present to hear confessions and offer God's mercy. Come experience the peace and renewal the Lord longs to give.

St. Dominic will be hosting their penance service on Monday, December 15th from 6-8pm.

Advent Formation Series

December 19th | 5-7:30pm

Join us this Friday for the final night of our parish Advent Formation series as we discuss two pillars of our daily prayer, the morning offering and the daily examen. Dinner will be served from 5-6pm with formation for all ages along with free childcare for the little ones from 6-7:30pm.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
4:30pm
6:00pm

Christmas Day
Midnight
10:00am

Discover more Advent and Christmas ministries, events, and service opportunities on the next page.

John the Baptist | Preparing the Way for Christ

As we have heard in the Gospel readings at Mass over the past two Sundays, John the Baptist plays a central role in the Advent season. Described in Scripture as the "voice crying out in the wilderness" (Isaiah 40:3; Luke 3:4), John serves as the messenger who prepares the way for Jesus. His life and mission remind us that Advent is not only about anticipating Christmas but also about repentance, renewal, and opening our hearts to Christ.

John the Baptist's role is rooted in his unique calling as the last of the Old Testament prophets and the one who directly points to the Messiah. From his birth, foretold by the angel Gabriel to his father Zechariah, John was set apart for a divine mission. The Gospels of Luke and Matthew highlight his bold proclamation of repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of sins, emphasizing that true preparation for Christ involves conversion and a turning away from sin. In Advent, John's message calls Catholics to examine their lives and prepare spiritually for the Lord's coming.

One of John's key functions is to bear witness to Christ. In John 1:29, he identifies Jesus as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world," drawing attention to Jesus' mission of salvation. This witness is central to Advent, reminding the faithful that preparation is not only about external traditions but about recognizing and receiving Christ in our hearts. By meditating on John's courage, simplicity, and fidelity, Catholics are encouraged to strengthen their own witness through prayer, service, and moral conversion.

John's presence in Advent also underscores the theme of expectation. Like the Israelites awaiting the Messiah, John lived in the wilderness with anticipation, urging people to be ready for the one who would bring God's kingdom. His example of waiting, listening, and proclaiming the truth offers a model for how we can observe Advent today: not counting down days to Christmas, but actively preparing our hearts and communities for the coming of Christ.

In celebrating Advent, the Church encourages the faithful to reflect on John the Baptist's prophetic role. Through his call to repentance, witness to Jesus, and anticipation of God's promises, John teaches us that Advent is a season of both reflection and joyful expectation. By following his example, we can enter more fully into the mystery of Christ's coming, preparing ourselves spiritually to welcome the Savior into our lives and hearts this Christmas season.

UPCOMING & NOTEWORTHY

Second Chance Sunday

Today | Dec 13 & 14

Confession is available after Masses this weekend, the second Sunday of the month, for Second Chance Sunday.

Diocesan Second Collection

This weekend | Dec 13 & 14

There is a Diocesan second collection this weekend supporting the Retirement Fund for Priests and Religious.

Help Decorate the Church

Volunteers Needed | Dec 21

If you would like to assist with decorating the Church for Christmas following the 10:45am Mass next Sunday, Dec 21, please call Heather at (520) 289-9846.

Community Christmas Dinner

Serving Those in Need | Dec 21st, 3pm

St. John is hosting a Christmas dinner for needy persons and families on Dec. 21, at 3pm in the Parish Hall. To volunteer or make a donation supporting this event, please contact Susan McNiel at (404) 825-8648, or by email at sshehans1@gmail.com.

Early Bulletin Deadlines

Throughout December

If your ministry group needs to request an announcement in the bulletin, please notify the Parish Office by the following dates:

Bulletin of Dec 28 | notify before 12/18

Bulletin of Jan 4 | notify before 12/23

Thank you for helping us meet the publisher's holiday deadlines!

Catholic Charities Food Pantry

Your generosity helps local families!

To make a gift or learn more about our Food Assistance Programs, please scan the code, or visit ccnwfl.org/food-assistance



2026 Jubilee Mass Dates

Celebrate with Bishop Wack

Sacramentally married couples celebrating their 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or any year beyond 50, are invited to a special liturgy with the Bishop.

Register using the codes below:



Tallahassee



Pensacola

Events this Week

Sunday, December 14

Second Chance Sunday - Confessions after Mass

9:30-10:30am - OCIA Class in parish office

Coffee & Donuts - In parish hall after both Masses

Monday, December 15

6:00pm - St. Dominic's Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 16

6:15pm - Catholic in Recovery in the parish office

6:30pm - St. John's Advent Penance Service

***No Encounter this evening** due to Penance Service

Wednesday, December 17

9:30am - Women's Bible Study in parish office

Friday, December 19

5:00pm - Advent Formation Night in parish hall

Sunday, December 21

9:30am - OCIA Class in parish office

Coffee & Donuts - In parish hall after both Masses

3:00pm - Christmas dinner for those in need in parish hall

First Communion Preparation

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist

Our First Communion program is for all families with a (baptized) child in grades 2-5. The program includes date nights for parents, family time, community events and a day retreat. To register or learn more, contact Jera at jera.blanchard-towns@saintjohnnpc.org.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Sundays 9:30-10:30am | Parish Office

Considering becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith? Contact Deacon Tim Warner at (850) 596-2974 to learn more!

Note: there will be no OCIA class held on December 28.

Choir Interest

Music Ministry

Christmas rehearsals start soon! You can participate in choir for special holy seasons, or around the year. For minors (17 & under), please contact music@saintjohnnpc.org directly before scheduling an audition. Please scan the codes below:



Music Ministry and
Choir Interest Form
<https://forms.gle/g3gMrLkwPJese9jp8>



Open (Informal) Choir
Auditions Sign-Up
<https://calendly.com/music-saintjohnnpc/choir-auditions>

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study Fall 2025

In the Parish Office

Men's Bible Study is starting up again for the Fall. Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Contact Warren Phillips at (850) 896-0801. In December, our meeting will be held on Dec. 10th.

Women's Bible Study Fall 2025

9:30 - 11am Wednesdays | Parish Office

Contemplate the Life of Jesus through our study based around "The Chosen". Join us to watch, discuss, and grow closer to the Lord! Contact Kathy Kidd: (850) 814-7747, or Martha Cordell: (850) 814-4619 for more info!

Men's Coffee & Bible Study in PCB

Mondays | 7-7:50am

Starbucks on US-98 & R. Jackson

Join the men of St. John for fellowship and Bible Study before the workday starts! For more information, contact Curt Simmons at (615) 617-9119.

Join us in Prayer

If you would like to add anyone to the prayer list, please visit saintjohnpc.org/prayer-request. Prayer requests will be in the bulletin for one month unless otherwise requested.

Mass Intentions

To request a Mass for a loved one, please call or visit the parish office

Saturday, December 13, 2025

4:30pm.....†Bernice Macejka and son, John
by Ann Harnage

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

8:15am.....People of the Parish
10:45am.....John Wyatt by Jacque Wyatt
Happy Birthday!

Monday, December 15, 2025

8:15am.....†Tom Dellatore

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

5:30pm.....Seminarians by CCW

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

8:15am.....†Al Kidd by James & Theresa Garcia

Thursday, December 18, 2025

5:30pm.....Bishop Wack

Friday, December 19, 2025

8:15am.....†Helen Tesoriero
by Teresa Loanzon and Family

Saturday, December 20, 2025

4:30pm.....Fr. Kennell & Diocesan Clergy by CCW

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

8:15am.....†Helen Sabo by the Turner Family
10:45am....People of the Parish



ST. JOHN
CATHOLIC ACADEMY
PRESCHOOL

NOW HIRING

**EXPERIENCED
PRESCHOOL TEACHER**

Do you have a heart for children and a gift for teaching? We're looking for an experienced preschool teacher to join our community.

Share your skills, creativity, and love of learning while helping little ones grow in knowledge and faith.

- Preschool/early childhood teaching experience required
- Passion for nurturing children in a faith-filled environment
- Strong communication and classroom management skills
- Apply today by scanning the QR code below or emailing to employment@sjs eagles.org.



St. John Catholic Academy prepares and educates students for academic success and forms disciples of Christ for life.

Healing

Judy Pluard, Zee Haranek, Matthew Adock,
Cora Smith

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 14, 2025

Sun Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10;
Mt 11:2-11

Mon Num 24: 2-7, 15-17a;

Ps 25:4-5ab; 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tues

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23;
Mt 21:28-32

Wed

Gen 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17;
Mt 1:1-17

Thur

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Fri

Jdg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

Sat

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Sun Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7;
Mt 1:18-24

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention

December: For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

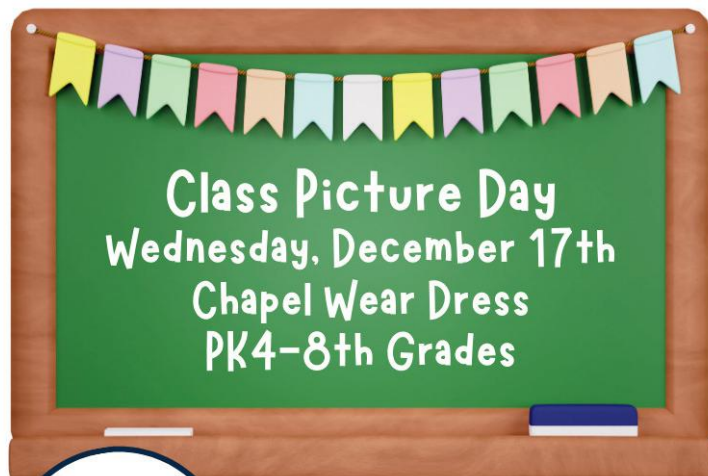


December 15, 2025



EAGLE NEWS

"St. John Catholic Academy prepares and educates students for academic success and forms disciples of Christ for life."



UPCOMING EVENTS

This is week three of Advent:



- Wednesday, December 17th - Class Picture Day PK4-8th
Grades - Chapel Wear Dress
- Friday, December 19th - Christmas Program @ 10am/
chapel Wear Required,
End of Second 9 Weeks/
Early Release / No Aftercare
Annual Faculty and Staff Holiday
Dinner
- Thursday, December 18th -
- Preschool closes at 4:00pm
 - Aftercare closes at 4:00pm
- Monday, December 22nd - First Day of Christmas
Break Preschool Closed
through January 2nd
Preschool students return /
VPK Instructional Day
Teacher workday
K-8 Students return
- Monday, January 5th -
- Tuesday, January 6th -



EATING BASICS

MODERATION -
JUST STAY IN THE
MIDDLE, NOT
TOO MUCH, NOT
TOO LITTLE.

Christmas Program

Let every heart
prepare Him room

Friday, December 19th
@ 10am
Chapel Wear Required



CONGRATULATIONS

First Grade is our
winner for MOST
FUNDS RAISED as
a classroom!
\$3046.80
Great job!

Total funds raised: \$15, 186.50

Faith in Action:

Investing in Our School Safety

Donations for this initiative are ongoing!

This year, our Walkathon proceeds will support our new Full Time Campus Security Initiative, strengthening safety for our students, staff, and visitors. Your sponsorship directly helps fund these efforts and ensures a secure environment for our school community.

If you feel inclined to support this effort, your contribution will help strengthen our campus and benefit every student.



The virtue of Kindness

DEFINITION OF KINDNESS:

Expressing genuine concern about the well-being of others; anticipating their needs

PRAYER FOR KINDNESS: Dear Jesus, You are kindness itself. When others meet me, let them experience your kindness within me.

KINDNESS LOOKS LIKE:

- Talking to someone who seems sad
- Helping someone clean up a spill

KINDNESS SOUNDS LIKE:

- You seem upset, is there anything I can do for you?
- I can clean that up for you



Contact Us:

850.763.1775



St. John Catholic Academy
@stjohncatholicacademy



StJohnCatholicAcademy.org
Office@SJSEagles.org

DIRECTORY OF MINISTRIES

Adoration (St. Dominic)

St. Dom Parish Office....850-785-4574
St. Dominic's has a perpetual adoration chapel. Contact their parish office for the door code or to sign-up for a weekly hour

Association of St. Jude

Don Rauscher.....850-271-3365

Carmelites

Angie Cirabisi.....317-526-8614

Catholic in Recovery

Diane.....850-541-3326
Wayne.....850-532-0421
Open for all who are in recovery from any form of unhealthy attachment

Council of Catholic Women

Susie Prather.....281-844-0844

Fishers of Men (St. Dominic)

Stephen Butler.....850-832-6434
Twice monthly breakfast on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 8:30-10:30am at St. Dominic's MC3 building.

Knights of Columbus

Mike Tierney.....850-319-1945

Lending Library

Located in the parish office (M-Th 9-3)

Men's Club

Lee Fry.....850-867-3916

Men's Bible Study

Warren Phillips.....850-896-0801

Ministry to the Sick

Contact the parish office to arrange for the Eucharist to be brought to anyone who is sick or homebound

Mission 850

850mission@gmail.com

Provides disaster relief services and hosts service projects every 2nd Saturday of the month

Morning Rosary

Every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday from 7:30-8am (before Mass)

Music Ministry

Me-Gan Vu.....music@saintjohnnpc.org

Scan the code to fill out the interest form for joining the choir/music team. Email Me-Gan directly for minors interested in joining.



Rachel's Vineyard

904-221-3232.....rachelsvineyard.org

Retreats for women and men looking to renew hearts broken by abortion

The Third Option

A program for couples & individuals to help their relationships flourish. Fall schedule coming soon.

Women's Morning Bible Study

Kathy Kidd.....850-814-7747
Martha Cordell.....850-814-4619
Meets in the parish office conference room every Wednesday from 9:30-10:30am, studying "The Chosen"

Women's Socials

heather.hanna@saintjohnnpc.org
Typically on the first Saturday of the month, from 10am-noon in the parish hall.

Young Professional Fellowship

Scan the QR code to join the GroupMe to stay up-to-date on bible studies & gatherings

