



**Saint John The Evangelist Catholic Church**

**The Baptism of the Lord | January 11, 2026**

1008 Fortune Ave, Panama City, FL 32401

*The Baptism of Christ, Andrea del Verrocchio and Leonardo da Vinci, 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

# ON BAPTISM

*The Baptism of Christ, Verrocchio and da Vinci, 1475*

On this Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which brings the Christmas season to its close. At the Jordan River, Jesus steps into the waters and is revealed as the beloved Son of the Father as the Holy Spirit descends upon him. This moment is not only a revelation of who Jesus is, but also a sign of what he has come to accomplish for our salvation.

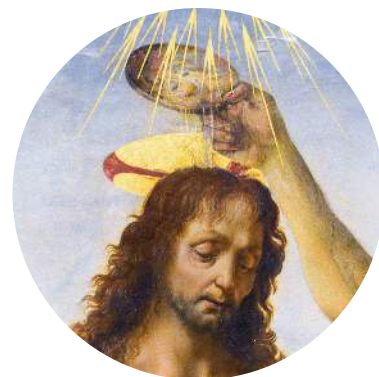
To understand this feast, we first ask: what is Baptism, and why does it matter? The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit” (CCC 1213). Baptism is not merely a symbolic washing, but a saving act of God, through which profound changes take place within us. Through baptism original and personal sin is washed away, we become adopted sons and daughters of the Father, and we are incorporated into the Church, the living Body of Christ, sharing in God’s own divine life.

Because Baptism truly gives new life, Jesus speaks of its necessity: “Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (John 3:5). For this reason, the Church encourages Baptism as soon as possible, especially for infants, while entrusting those who die without Baptism to the mercy of God (cf. CCC 1261). While God is not limited by the sacraments, the Church teaches that Baptism is necessary for those who hear the Gospel and are able to receive it (cf. CCC 1257).

These truths are powerfully suggested in *The Baptism of Jesus* by Andrea del Verrocchio and Leonardo da Vinci, featured on our bulletin cover. Jesus stands humbly in the Jordan as the heavens open. St. John the Baptist baptizes Christ while holding his banner that proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God. In the same hand, John bears a cross, pointing beyond the waters of the Jordan to another baptism yet to come, the baptism of blood on Calvary.

Why, then, was Jesus baptized if he had no sin? The Catechism explains that “the Baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God’s suffering Servant” (CCC 536). By entering the waters of the Jordan, Jesus sanctifies them for us, but John’s banner and cross remind us that these waters lead to Calvary. There, Jesus will undergo a “baptism in blood,” pouring out his life on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

As we celebrate this feast and enter into ordinary time, may we renew our gratitude for our own Baptism and recommit ourselves to living as beloved sons and daughters of God, united to Christ in his death and resurrection and called to share his saving love with the world.



# UPCOMING & NOTEWORTHY

## First Communion Class Meeting

**Parish Office | Jan 18**

First Communion preparation class (children only) will be held on Sunday, Jan 18, from 9:30-10:30am. Your child may be brought to the parish office to attend. Contact Jera at [jera.blanchard-towns@saintjohnpc.org](mailto:jera.blanchard-towns@saintjohnpc.org) for details!

## Winter Bunco

**Parish Hall | Jan 23**

The CCW is sponsoring Winter Bunco for ages 15 and up! Tickets are available for \$10 each after the Masses this weekend, Jan 10 & 11. Any remaining tickets will be available next weekend. Portion of proceeds benefit the Burse Club. Join us in the hall on Friday, Jan 23, at 6pm for light appetizers and refreshments, with Bunco starting at 7pm. Tickets sell fast so be sure to get yours early! Call Chris McCormick at (314) 574-3070 for more details.

## Piece Makers Crafting Group

**Next Meeting | Jan 24**

A new group will be meeting on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month in the parish hall from 10am-1pm. All crafters (age 18+) are welcome! Woodworking, ceramics, sewing, all other needle crafts, paper crafts, wreath making, painting, art...the list goes on! If you have a craft you enjoy, come and join us for dedicated time to craft together! Contact: Susie Prather at (281) 844-0844.

## Men's Fraternal Gathering

**Craft Beer EmPOURium | Jan 27**

All men 21+ of the parish are invited to join for an informal gathering at Craft Beer Empourium in downtown Panama City for fellowship over a drink and/or game of pool from 7:30-9pm. No RSVP required. Feel free to bring a friend.

## 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!

## Liturgical Ministries

**Serve the Lord at Mass**

If you are interested in sharing your time as a Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Usher, Altar Server, or Audio-Visual volunteer, please contact the parish office at (850) 763-1821 or [saintjohnpc@saintjohnpc.org](mailto:saintjohnpc@saintjohnpc.org) to simply learn more or for next steps! We appreciate all of our volunteers and are happy to work with your scheduling needs and availability.

## Events this Week

**Sunday, January 11**

**Second Chance Sunday** - Confessions after Masses

**9:30-10:30am** - OCIA class in parish office

**Coffee & Donuts** - In parish hall after both Masses

**Tuesday, January 13**

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

**6:15pm** - Encounter School of Ministry in church

**Wednesday, January 14**

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

**6:30pm** - Men's Bible Study in parish office

**Friday, January 16**

**6:00pm** - St. Jude Meeting & Potluck in parish hall

**Saturday, January 17**

**8:30am** - Fishers of Men at St. Dominic

**Sunday, January 18**

**9:30am** - OCIA in the parish office

**9:30am** - First Communion class in parish office

**Coffee & Donuts** - In parish hall after both Masses

## Catholic Charities Food Pantry

**Your generosity helps local families!**

Thank you to all who have donated and continue to give! Food items may be placed in the wagon in the church entryway. To make a gift or learn more about food assistance, please scan the code, or visit [ccnwfl.org/food-assistance](http://ccnwfl.org/food-assistance).



## 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@saintjohnpc.org](mailto:jera.blanchard-towns@saintjohnpc.org).

## Choir Interest

**Music Ministry**

Interested in participating in parish life through choir? Please scan the codes below! For minors (17 & under), please contact [music@saintjohnpc.org](mailto:music@saintjohnpc.org) directly before scheduling an audition.



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



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



# BIBLE STUDIES

## Men's Bible Study

### In the Parish Office

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. Contact Warren Phillips at (850) 896-0801. We are on break for the holidays after December 10<sup>th</sup>. 2026 schedule coming soon!

## Women's Bible Study

### Wednesdays at 9:30am | 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! Join us on January 7th!

## 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. We continue to meet during the holidays.

## Join us in Prayer

To add anyone to the prayer list, please visit [saintjohnnpc.org/prayer-request](http://saintjohnnpc.org/prayer-request). Prayer requests will be in the bulletin for a month/as requested.

## Mass Intentions

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

### Saturday, January 10, 2026

4:30pm....†Bill Cordell by Martha Cordell

### Sunday, January 11, 2026

#### The Baptism of the Lord

8:15am.....People of the Parish

10:45am...†James McCarthy

### Monday, January 12, 2026

8:15am....†Robert Ganzak by Rob Griffith

### Tuesday, January 13, 2026

5:30pm....†Gisele R. Savoie

by Fred & Mona Thornburgh

### Wednesday, January 14, 2026

8:15am....†Thomas Towns

### Thursday, January 15, 2026

5:30pm....†Al Kidd

by Fred & Mona Thornburgh

### Friday, January 16, 2026

8:15am....†Elisabeth Ryals

### Saturday, January 17, 2026

4:30pm....†Amber Catalano Smith

by Martha Cordell

### Sunday, January 18, 2026

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:15am.....†Richard Parker

10:45am...People of the Parish



## 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@sjseagles.org](mailto:employment@sjseagles.org).



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

## Repose of the Soul

†Robert Garcia, †Paul Schmidt, †Terry Jack

## Healing

Louis Sexton, Kathleen McDermott, Robert Bazemore, Richard LeFils

## Scripture Readings, Week of Jan 11, 2026

### Sun The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9;  
Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6;  
Mt 3:13-17

**Mon** 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19;  
Mk 1:14-20

**Tues** 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;  
Mk 1:21-28

**Wed** 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20;  
Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Mk 1:29-39

**Thur** 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;  
Mk 1:40-45

**Fri** 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19;  
Mk 2:1-12

**Sat** 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;  
Mk 2:13-17

### Sun Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3;  
Jn 1:29-34



January 12, 2026

# EAGLE NEWS



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

## 2026-2027 Re-Registration and Enrollment Information

Priority registration for the 2026-2027 school year for current students will be open from Monday, January 12th, and will remain open through Friday, January 30th.

- Families who complete re-registration during this early period will receive \$100 off the \$250 registration fee.
- Open enrollment for new students begins January 25, kicking off Catholic Schools Week. We look forward to welcoming new families to our school community.
- Families planning to apply for Step Up for Students scholarships may begin submitting applications starting February 1, 2026.

**Check your email for details regarding re-registration for the 26-27 school year.**

*We encourage families to take advantage of early registration savings and plan ahead for the upcoming school year. Questions? Email us: [office@sjseagles.org](mailto:office@sjseagles.org)*

The virtue of

## SINCERITY

### DEFINITION OF SINCERITY:

Trustfulness in words and actions; honesty and enthusiasm towards others

### PRAYER FOR SINCERITY:

Dear Jesus, please give me the grace to be honest in all my words and actions. When someone is speaking, give me the patience to listen attentively.

### SINCERITY LOOKS LIKE:

- Doing your best on a job, schoolwork etc.
- Not trying to appear perfect; being at peace with your faults

### SINCERITY SOUNDS LIKE:

Let me be honest with you...

## DRESS CODE REMINDERS

- Girls' skirts, skorts, jumpers, and shorts must be worn at knee length
- Boy's hair must be cut short enough so it does not touch the top of any part of the collar; it must be cut over their eyebrows and over their ears
- Any outerwear worn indoors must have the school logo embroidered

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students reflect orderliness, responsibility, and respect through proper uniform compliance and pride in their appearance.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, January 12 <sup>th</sup> -	26-27 Priority Re-Registration begins for current students
Monday, January 19 <sup>th</sup> -	Martin Luther King's Birthday Preschool Closed and K-8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Academy Closed
Sunday, January 25 <sup>th</sup> -	Catholic Schools Week Begins
Sunday, January 25 <sup>th</sup> -	Open enrollment for new students begins
Friday, January 30 <sup>th</sup> -	Re-registration discount ends at 3:30 pm

## Fork and Knife Etiquette

Two acceptable styles:  
Continental style and  
European style.



Contact Us:

850.763.1775



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[@stjohncatholicacademy](https://www.facebook.com/stjohncatholicacademy)



[StJohnCatholicAcademy.org](https://www.StJohnCatholicAcademy.org)  
[Office@SJSEagles.org](mailto: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. Breakfasts will resume in January.*

## 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



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Judy Giannetto

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**  
Judy Giannetto

**Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will**  
For further information, please call the parish office.

**Kent-Forest Lawn Funeral Home**  
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763-4694  
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