



Fab Friday - December 1, 2023

EVERYTHING HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S THIS WEEK (AND MORE)



Can You Believe it's December?

Oh My Goodness. December is here and that means it is time to start a new liturgical year. This first Sunday of Advent is the beginning of many beautiful services - day, evening, weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays! Below you will find schedules of all that is available to you. We hope that you will find just the right services for you to savor the wondrous miracle that we celebrate through Advent and Christmas.

The first service of Advent is the Great Litany in Procession, a solemn beginning to the season. Advent, derived from Latin, means "arrival" or "coming". Preparation for the Advent of God begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. Scripture texts and prayers during the season of Advent express expectation, comfort, and hope to Christians longing for the promised Light of the World, the One whose birth we celebrate at Christmas.

This Sunday is also the day we light the first candle of the Advent Wreath. The

first candle is called the Prophet's Candle, in memory of the prophets and particularly Isaiah, who prophesied the birth of Christ. It symbolizes HOPE, reminding us that Jesus is coming. In many traditions, the lighting of the four candles is meant to be done as a family and will often be used to reflect on the hope, faith, joy, peace, light, and purity that came into the world with the gift of the Messiah. This is my first time to have made a wreath to enjoy in my home, so I am experiencing the Advent season in a new way this year. I look forward to this with great anticipation.

Here is your [Sunday bulletin](#). We hope to see you on Sunday as we gather to give thanks to the God that watches over us, no matter what!

Peace be with you,
Nancy



Sunday, December 10 - Greening of the Church

Sunday, December 10, is the day set aside for the greening of the church for the Advent and Christmas season. All those wishing to help should stay following the service. All assistance is appreciated. This is a fun family Advent activity. We will need some volunteers willing to climb ladders to accomplish this.

Sunday School

growing together in Christ

Sunday School News Update

Sunday School News: The adult forum has completed their study of Matthew for the year. The confirmation/new member class, the youth and the children's classes will continue to meet through December 10. **Sunday School will break from December 17 through January 7** and reconvene on January 14.



Gift Wrapping by Cherie will take place following the service on **Sunday, December 17**. This is a great opportunity for you to **get your gifts wrapped and ready to put under the tree**, just in time! Cherie has lots of experience wrapping packages and loves to serve others. Don't miss this! You will be so grateful you remembered to bring those gifts.



For our Christmas outreach project this year, we are again collecting items for distribution at the Food Pantry at St. James Episcopal Church. To help complete 50 holiday meals for their customers, they are in need of:

- 50 boxed stuffing
- 50 instant mashed potatoes
- 50 instant gravy packets

That's a lot, but we can do this! Please look for the collection basket in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

The last day to bring donations to St. John's is December 10 for distribution at St. Jame's on December 16.



Cookies, Bars, Cakes, Breads, and Scones, Oh My!

Help us raise money for a new adult-size changing table for St. John's Church. As our congregation grows, we want to be ready to welcome people of all ages and abilities. This is an important addition to our church to make this goal possible.

Bring your favorite sweet treat to sell at our Sunday bake sale and help us with this project.

St. John's Needs a New Treasurer!

The Bishop's Committee has opened **nominations for a new treasurer (or two)** to serve as the overseer for the finances of the church. It requires a **4-6 hour per week commitment (2-3 if working as partners)**, with some additional hours at the beginning and end of each year. A person with knowledge and experience working with accounts payable and receivables, easy payroll management, and preparation of monthly and annual financial reports is the ideal candidate. There will be training offered with advisors at the ready during the year. **Please talk with Fr. Nate or Ron Pierce if interested in taking on this position, vital in the life of the church.**



A first look at Advent and Epiphany services. Sunday, December 3 is the First Sunday of Advent with the Great Litany in Procession.



*Weekday Services
December and January*

Wednesday, Dec 6	5:30 pm	First Wednesday Eucharist
Wednesday, Dec 13	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday, Dec 20	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday, Dec 21	5:30 pm	Feast of St Thomas the Apostle
Tuesday, Dec 26	Noon	Feast of St. Stephen
Wednesday, Dec 27	Noon	Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Thursday, Dec 28	Noon	Feast of Holy Innocents
Monday, Jan 1	5:30 pm	Feast of the Holy Name
Wednesday, Jan 2	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Saturday, Jan 6	Noon	Epiphany Eucharist
Wednesday, Jan 10	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday, Jan 17	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday, Jan 24	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday, Jan 31	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer
Friday, Feb 2	5:30 pm	Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Savor the most wonderful time of the year through our intimate evening services this Holy Season.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Advent and Epiphany Services

Sunday, December 24 – 10:15 am
Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 24 – 10:30 pm
Choral Prelude and Midnight Mass

Monday, December 25 – 10:15 am
Christmas Eucharist

Tuesday, December 26 – 5:30 pm
Feast of St. Stephen

Wednesday, December 27 – 5:30 pm
Feast of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Thursday, December 28 – 5:30 pm
Feast of Holy Innocents

Monday, January 1 – 5:30 pm
Feast of the Holy Name

Saturday, January 6 – 5:30 pm
Feast of the Epiphany

