



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

PARISH PROFILE 2020



Our Leadership

The Diocese of Southwest Florida

The Right Reverend Dabney Tyler Smith,
V Bishop of Southwest Florida

The Wardens, Vestry, and Officers of the Parish

Gregory A. Hearing, Senior Warden

Dennis M. Carr, Junior Warden

Paul A. Brokaw

Dallas B. Coffield

Brett D. Divers

Richard D. Eckhard

Kimberly D. French

Richard B. Hadlow

Laura V. Hobby

Jan A. Kelley

Suzy S. Lopez

Robert W. Yelverton

Douglas F. Arthur, Treasurer

Gwyn F. Schabacker, Clerk of the Vestry

The Clergy and Staff

The Reverend John R. Peterson, Rector Emeritus

The Reverend Dr. James H. Reho, Associate
Rector and Chaplain to the School

The Reverend Michael D. Cannon,
Associate Rector

The Venerable Dr. Kathleen M. Moore, Deacon

The Reverend Donald P. Goodheart,
Priest Associate

Simon J. Morley, Organist and Director of Music

Hugh A. R. Jebson, Head of Saint John's School

John P. Edgar, Parish Administrator

Michael M. Matthews, Chief Operations Officer

Laurie D. Lawther, Financial Administrator

Lee M. Lowry, Director of Communications

Janis L. Elliott, Office Assistant and Registrar

Ayana S. Grady, Director of Children, Youth,
and Family Ministries

Mark W. Shiflett, Director of Facilities and
Grounds

Kenton Johnston, Shane Jeffcoat, Jeff Edmonson,
Andres Castro, Sextons

ST. JOHN'S MISSION

Our mission is to proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ, and to build a spiritual community forming Christians of all ages through education, worship, and outreach.

OUR DIOCESE

The Diocese of Southwest Florida is a constituent member of the worldwide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church in the United States. Our 78 parishes and missions total some 31,000 baptized persons who share an exciting pilgrimage of ministry. On any given Sunday, about 13,000 people worship in Episcopal churches in Southwest Florida. Our Diocese includes the cities of Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota, and Fort Myers. Congregations extend along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, with the northernmost in Brooksville, the southernmost on Marco Island, and the easternmost in Plant City, Arcadia, and LaBelle.

We seek to live out Jesus' Great Commission that we should be in the world to make disciples of all people ministering God's redemptive gifts of love and grace.

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A Walk Through St. John's History

Looking back at more than a century of St. John's in Tampa, we see the many ways God has blessed us.



1912–1949

St. John's began as a mission seeded by St. Andrew's Church in 1912 and was originally called St. John's by the Sea. The late 1920s introduced the construction of a brick church building to replace the original wood structure. After some financial struggles, St. John's completed the sanctuary and bell tower in 1926. Fr. Clarence Brickman arrived in 1949, and the church building was completed.

1910

1940

1950–1999

St. John's started its largest ministry—educating children—with the founding of the St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School in 1951. Fr. George Burchill served as headmaster of the School for 38 years, and his influence is still felt today, as St. John's graduates are known for their strong skills in reading, grammar, writing, and arithmetic. In the 1950s and 1960s St. John's Church flourished, adding communicants, installing stained glass windows, augmenting music and school ministries, and increasing properties.

1960

In 1979, Fr. John Peterson began his 21-year tenure as Rector. He was an able shepherd pastorally and administratively, insisting that St. John's operate within its budget. He also encouraged lay members to act on their faith by initiating parish ministries. During this time St. John's elected its first woman to the Vestry, Fr. Peterson appointed the first female Senior Warden, and the church hired its first female priest. St. John's grew from a program-sized to a corporate-sized church—complete with a redesigned sanctuary and new organ. The music program and choir became well known throughout the Tampa Bay area.

1980

2000

During the 1990s, following Fr. Burchill's retirement, the Vestry elected its first School Board of Trustees. The Rector, serving on the School Board, became more involved in leading the school, establishing a close working relationship between the church and school that continues to this day.

2020

1900

1920

1950

1970

1990

2010

2000–2002

A time of transition, 2000–2002 were years of change and growth. After Fr. Peterson’s retirement, St. John’s had two interim Rectors. Since the church and school facilities needed more space and modernizing, St. John’s conducted a successful \$4.6 million capital campaign—Share the Light— in 2001–2002 that allowed for the purchase and remodeling of a Plant Avenue property for church and school use. The school now included three campuses to house Primary, Lower, and Middle Divisions.

2003–2013

After a comprehensive search, Fr. Douglas Remer was named the new Rector of St. John’s in 2003. His tenure began with the expansion of the school from two to three classes per grade. Fr. Remer also started and expanded a combined endowment fund for the church and school. St. John’s celebrated its milestone Centennial anniversary in 2012. Fr. Remer retired in 2014.

2014–Present

In 2014 Fr. Charles Connelly began his tenure as Rector of St. John’s. By operating within budget for the last seven years, he has put St. John’s in an excellent financial position to undertake a much-needed capital campaign to renovate our Church buildings, Lower Division campus, and Middle Division campus. Fr. Connelly has built a unifying environment, and our ministries have grown under his leadership. During the pandemic, St. John’s clergy and staff have worked tirelessly to keep parishioners connected and cared for, from pastoral care and community outreach to online services and classes.

Where We Are Today

Communicants in Good Standing:

886

Total Members:

1,276

2019 Weddings:

5

2019 Burials:

8

2019 Baptisms:

24

2019 Confirmations/Receptions:

11

Average Sunday Attendance:

287

Pledging Units:

322

Our Church and Buildings

Nestled in the historic Hyde Park neighborhood of South Tampa, our brick church on Orleans Avenue serves as the cornerstone of St. John's, with a view of beautiful Bayshore Boulevard and Hillsborough Bay. Our properties include seven buildings, all within close proximity to vibrant downtown Tampa.

Our current church building, completed in 1926, and its adjoining Chapel, added in 1988, represent traditional church architecture at its finest. The woodwork, rood screen, and colorful stained glass windows are beautiful works of art that share scripture with all who enter our church. Three well-attended Sunday services comfortably fill the church, and the chapel provides solace for weekday Eucharists and healing services. Our lovely brick courtyard features olive trees leading into a gated outdoor Chapel of the Resurrection and columbarium with a memorial wall and garden. Holy hospitality in our courtyard flows into fellowship and gatherings in our spacious Parish Hall.

The Brickman Hall building, adjacent to the Parish Hall, was constructed in 1949 with an addition built in 1958. It currently houses the Lower Division campus (grades 1– 4), and some classrooms are used for Sunday school.

During the 1960s the school expanded when an old Texaco station nearby was purchased and renovated. It became known as the Primary Division campus (pre-k and kindergarten).

In the 1980s, the church bought a house next door to use for additional meeting space. Now called the Father Charles E. Connelly Discovery House, it is used primarily for youth activities.

In the early 2000s, a previous school campus became available just over one mile away, and a successful capital campaign helped St. John's purchase and renovate this property, which now serves as the Middle Division Campus (grades 5 – 8).



Church

Built in 1926 and renovated in 1988
Seating for 550 in pews
Handicapped accessible

Organ

Four-manual instrument, 64 ranks
with an antiphonal division
Rebuilt in 1984 by Wicks Organ
Company, Highland, IL
Overhauled in 2010 with a new RA Colby 4
manual console 2010 additional Reuter Organ
pipe renovation and replacement

Chapel

Added to the main nave of the church in 1988
Seating for 40 in pews

Outdoor Chapel of the Resurrection

Chapel and columbarium with memorial wall

Parish Hall

Seating for 225
Kitchen, renovated in 2018
Teacher workroom

Brickman Hall (2 Floors)

Parish offices
Publications room
Infant nursery
Meeting room
Choir room
Other rooms for school use

Lower Division Orleans Avenue Campus (2 Floors)

Offices and 13 classrooms
Play deck with basketball court

Primary Division Rome Avenue Campus (1 Floor)

6 classrooms
Playground facilities

Middle Division Plant Avenue Campus (3 Floors)

Administrative offices
Choir rehearsal room
Teacher workroom
Nursery
Conference room
Chapel with seating for 240 in pews
Priests' sacristy
Altar guild room
Dining hall with seating for 90
Media center
Computer lab
10 classrooms
Art and science labs
Gym with basketball and volleyball courts,
locker rooms and coaches offices
Outside basketball and volleyball court
Baseball batting cage
Covered patio
Gated parking

School Administrative Offices Building

6 offices

Discovery House

2 meeting areas
3 offices
Kitchen

Clergy Housing

3 bedrooms, 2 baths

Organist and Choir Director Housing

3 bedrooms, 2 baths

Future Facilities

Parking lot and other property adjacent to
Plant Avenue Campus for expansion of School
and green space

The Beauty of Our Worship

Sunday worship is the most important facet of our shared parish life. Often the first point of contact for newcomers, it joins us together in our Christian faith. Our style of worship draws people to St. John's and is often the primary reason they stay. Parishioners appreciate sermons that are enthusiastically preached, with clarity and intellect, and make the Gospel relevant in our lives. All three liturgies have lay participants including acolytes, lay readers, lay Eucharistic ministers, and a verger at the 11:15 a.m. service.

Regular Sunday Services*

- 8:00 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist Rite I Said Service
- 9:15 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist Rite II Choral Eucharist
- 9:15 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 9:15 a.m.** Family Casual Service in Parish Hall
(last Sunday of the month September–March)
- 10:45 a.m.** Morning Prayer at Canterbury Tower
- 11:15 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist Rite I Choral Eucharist

*Please note that our pandemic schedule includes 8 a.m. Rite I Said Eucharist and livestreamed 10 a.m. Rite II Choral Eucharist services, following CDC guidelines.

Weekday Services

Wednesday

- 10:30 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist at Canterbury Tower
- 12:15 p.m.** The Holy Eucharist Chapel

Thursday

- 10:00 a.m.** The Holy Eucharist and Healing and Anointing

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in honor of all Major Feast Days on Wednesday or Thursday of the week in which the Holy Day falls.

Parish Day School Weekday Services

LOWER DIVISION CAMPUS

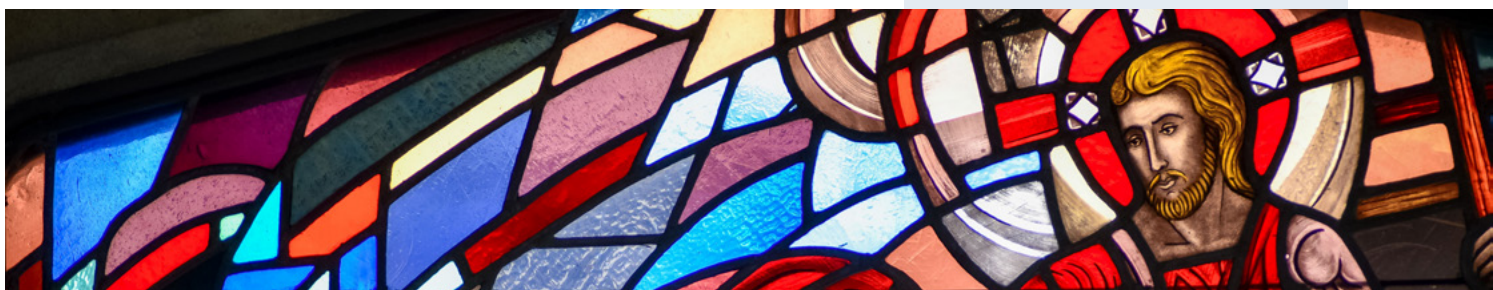
- Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday**
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
in St. John's Church

- Wednesday**
8:00 a.m. The Holy Eucharist
in St. John's Church

MIDDLE DIVISION CAMPUS

- Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Friday**
8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer in
Parish Day School Chapel

- Thursday**
10:00 a.m. The Holy Eucharist
in Parish Day School Chapel



Our Lovely Musical Tradition

The Music Program at St. John's is firmly rooted in the Anglican Choral Tradition, with a long history of recognition in the Tampa Bay area and beyond for its high quality and standards. Our parishioners appreciate traditional music, with many citing our music and liturgy as things that attracted them to St. John's.

Our Dedicated Choir

The St. John's Choir is a semi-professional ensemble of some 18 voices, and consists of paid section leaders and dedicated volunteers. Commitment to our choir is high, and the schedule rigorous. Our wide repertoire includes titles from the 16th century to the present day—a typical Sunday morning may feature music from Thomas Tallis to William Walton.

Our choir offers a Gradual Psalm sung to Anglican chant, an Offertory Anthem, and a Communion Motet, together with a full setting of the Ordinary of the Mass at the 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist.

Special Services and Concerts

We offer Choral Evensong several times a year, along with Advent and Christmas Lessons and Carols annually. St. John's Choir is in demand to sing services and concerts at churches in the Diocese and beyond. In recent years, we were invited to sing at St. Thomas, Fifth Avenue, New York (three times); the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City; Washington National Cathedral; and Grace Cathedral, San Francisco.

St. John's also presents an Annual Music Series of concerts featuring local and international artists, and the series attracts a wide audience. Our four-manual Casavant/Wicks/Colby organ, most recently restored in 2010, is highly regarded, and visiting recitalists have included David Briggs, Geoffrey Morgan, Benjamin Sheen, James Kennerley and Stephen Tharpe. The American Boychoir, Choristers of St. Thomas, Fifth Avenue, New York, and choir of St. Mary's School Calne, UK have also appeared in the Music Series.

Since 2006 the St. John's Music Program has been led by Organist and Director of Music Simon Morley, a native of the UK and former Organ Scholar of Westminster Abbey.



Our Active Ministries

Evangelism

Invite-Welcome-Connect
Newcomers Ministry
Sunday Lookouts
Virtual Coffee Hour
Cursillo

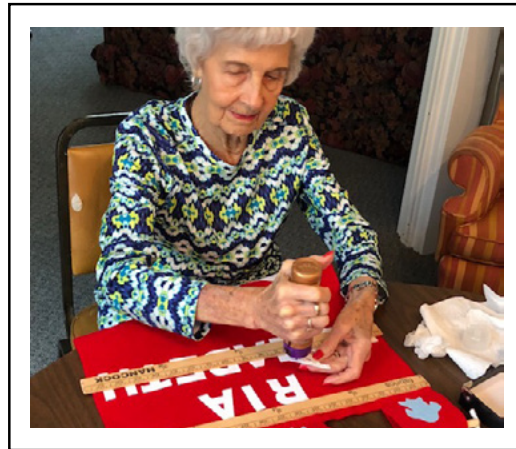
Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Leadership Team
Lay Eucharistic Visitors
Flower Team
Home Visitors
Newborn Celebration Ministry
Faithful Friends
Grace Guild
Walking the Mourner's Path

Worship

Acolytes
Altar Guild
Funeral Guild
Lay Eucharistic Ministers
Lay Readers/Lectors
Pew Organization
St. Margaret's Baptism Banner Guild
Ushers
Vergers
Wedding Guild

St. John's is blessed with gifted, caring parishioners who make service in our church community an important part of their lives. Our lay leaders work diligently and faithfully to activate a variety of ministries and to encourage parishioner participation. The initial step of serving in a group such as the Altar Guild or Ushers often leads to increased involvement and leadership. Please note that many of our ministries and activities have been operating virtually or with safe distancing practices in place during the pandemic.



Pastoral Care: Serving Each Other

During those critical moments in life when we need support, our Pastoral Care team is here to help in many ways. These include listening, encouraging, or praying for parishioners during times of illness or hardship; providing meals and transportation; or bringing the Eucharist to the homebound. Our Newborn Celebration Ministry welcomes babies and supports parents with gift baskets; Grace Guild tends to families at funerals; and Faithful Friends reach out to the bereaved. Our Pastoral Care ministers show that we are never separated from the love of God or the fellowship of the St. John's community.



INVITE | WELCOME | CONNECT

As part of our mission of evangelism, St. John's is actively implementing the Invite/Welcome/Connect curriculum of Mary Parmer. We seek to encourage our current parishioners to invite new members, to welcome them wholeheartedly, and to connect them in deeper ways with our community in Christ.



A Glimpse of Parish Life

ESTHER SOCIETY

FATHERS' MINISTRY

HOLY HOSPITALITY

KITCHEN GUILD

MOMS' MEETUP

SOIRÉE

THE CIRCLE

St. John's Parish Life encompasses a wide range of ministries and fellowship groups that gather in a variety of settings. Our parish truly is a church family. Whether we are actively supporting one another or simply enjoying social time together, we know that Christ is at the center, the source of all our abundance.

Sunday Fellowship

Every Sunday between the 9:15 and 11:15 services, teams of parishioners create a congenial space for connecting with each other. Once a month, our Kitchen Guild prepares and serves a delicious, hearty breakfast in the Parish Hall. On the remaining Sundays, we gather informally, usually under the olive trees in our beautiful courtyard, where our Holy Hospitality ministry graciously provides lighter fare to fuel our conversations. We often showcase ministries and programs during this time, giving parishioners, especially newcomers, an ongoing opportunity to learn and engage.

Gatherings and Groups

The Circle and Soirée are two social groups that gather in parishioners' homes for informal dinners with no agenda other than fun and fellowship, welcoming all who wish to attend. Other fellowship ministries include the Esther Society women's group; the Fathers' Ministry, which sponsors our annual camping trip and helps out at Parish Picnics and Rally Days; and Moms' Meetup, a supportive space for mothers. These gatherings include social time as well the chance to learn from one another or participate in educational programs or service projects.



Our Adult Christian Formation

ADULT INQUIRERS'
CLASS

BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUPS

CONTEMPORARY
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

LENTEN TEACHING
SERIES

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MID-MORNING WOMEN'S
BIBLE STUDY

PARISH SPEAKER SERIES

SUNDAY MORNING
ADULT FORUM

WEDNESDAY EVENING
FILM SERIES

St. John's approaches Christian Formation as a lifelong journey of spiritual growth and maturing faith and encourages the congregation to see all activities of the church—worship, prayer, committee and Vestry meetings, classes, social events, and music—as opportunities for faith formation. Yet we also provide our adult parishioners with specific opportunities for education, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

We offer a variety of weekly Bible studies (both lay- and clergy-led) as well as book discussion groups and a Sunday Morning Adult Forum between the services. St. John's hosts an occasional speaker series and special seasonal programs during Lent, Holy Week, Advent, and Christmas. Many parishioners take advantage of Deanery and Diocesan formation opportunities such as Education for Ministry and the programs of our Dayspring Episcopal Conference Center.



Our Community Outreach

BISHOP'S APPEAL

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSIONS

CORNERSTONE KIDS

FAITH CAFÉ/SANDWICH SUNDAYS

CLINICA ESPERANZA

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRIES

LOVE INC OF METRO TAMPA

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

MEALS ON WHEELS

METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

JUDEO CHRISTIAN HEALTH CLINIC



St. John's parishioners share a strong commitment to helping others locally and globally. We support a variety of ministries and organizations through regular allocations from the Outreach budget of more than \$40,000 per year. In the last few years, St. John's has been instrumental in supporting three local ministries: Cornerstone Kids, Love INC of Metro Tampa, and Faith Café. Members of St. John's serve on the Boards of Directors for these organizations, and volunteers help with specific programs and events throughout the year.

Cornerstone Kids

Located at St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church, Cornerstone Kids is a nonprofit, comprehensive, after-school program for at-risk children 5–11 years old in the Tampa Heights community. It provides a safe, secure, and nurturing environment to promote the educational, spiritual, and emotional development of the children. The children also receive a hot meal each day.



Love INC (In the Name of Christ) of Metro Tampa

St. John's is one of 15 partner churches working with Love INC of Metro Tampa, which is a part of Love INC National—an organization with 134 affiliates and a 44-year history of providing a Christ-centered model to alleviate poverty that has impacted millions of lives and hundreds of communities.

Faith Café

A program of South Tampa Ecumenical Ministries (STEM)—a partnership of seven churches in South Tampa—Faith Café serves 50–90 homeless and/or food-insecure guests with lunch seven days per week in a dedicated facility.

We supplement our Outreach funding by supporting special partnerships and seasonal events, such as Christmas Angel Tree gifts and back-to-school backpacks for Cornerstone Kids. St. John's keeps parishioners informed about hands-on opportunities to get involved. We are truly blessed to share our gifts with others by doing God's work.



Our Active Children's and Youth Ministries

SUNDAY SCHOOL

St. John's offers weekly Sunday School for children approximately 4 years old through 5th grade during the 9:15 a.m. service. We follow the Whirl Curriculum, which mirrors the Lectionary, so that our lessons reflect the same messages as that week's services, allowing parents and children to discuss the week's teachings together. Our wonderful team of gifted volunteer Sunday School teachers continue to innovate each week through games, crafts, and lessons designed to teach the Bible in fun new ways!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Each summer St. John's hosts an exciting week of Vacation Bible School (VBS)—a special event for our church community and Cornerstone Kids, a local after-school program that provides academic assistance to at-risk students—at our Church and Lower Division Campus. Parent and teen volunteers create a lively VBS program for potty-trained 3-year-olds through 4th graders featuring a fun annual theme taught through songs, Bible class, crafts, and games.

OUR NURSERY

St. John's offers nursery care for children ages 3 and under during our 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. church services. Our nursery is facilitated by a hired service, helping to ensure that our youngest children receive a safe and professional childcare experience.

FAMILY MINISTRY

St. John's offers a Family Service in the Parish Hall during the 9:15 a.m. service on the last Sunday of each month from August–October and February–April. On Easter Sunday, we offer an additional Family Service followed by our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Other family events include Family Game Night in September, Pumpkin Painting in October, our Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve, Egg Painting near Palm Sunday, and games and treats during the annual Parish Picnic the Sunday after Easter.

YOUTH MINISTRY/EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY (EYC)

For our 6th–12th graders, St. John's offers weekly EYC youth group. Middle school students (6th–8th grades) meet from 4:30–6 p.m. each Sunday, while high schoolers (9th–12th grades) meet from 5:30–7 p.m. each Sunday, with a combined dinner from 5:30–6. A typical EYC meeting includes icebreakers, games, a lesson, and prayer. Our youth group also participates in service projects, such as cleaning around the church, volunteering at Metropolitan Ministries, and sponsoring St. John's Sandwich Sundays for Faith Café.

Our children are the future of St. John's, and we take the responsibility of raising them with a strong Christian education very seriously.

MISSION TRIPS

St. John's EYC hosts annual Summer Mission Trips with youth and adult leader participants who embark on life-changing journeys. In 2018, we served in Chattanooga, TN at local rec centers, state parks, and nursing homes. In 2019, we visited the Blue Ridge Mountains of Monroe, NC to help the community recover from a recent storm, facilitate a Kids Club, and paint houses. In 2021, we plan to focus on various charities and churches in New Orleans, LA. Each mission team shares deep bonds and spiritual growth as they travel and work together to help others.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION

St. John's offers Confirmation for our youths in grades 7 and up, using the book *My Faith, My Life* for guided study and preparation. Through weekly spring meetings, confirmands learn about topics such as prayer, the sacraments, the history of the Episcopal Church, and worship. They also engage in a Confirmation Retreat to go deeper with some of what they learn. Our youths are usually confirmed in May with a visit from the Bishop.





Our Faithful Stewardship

Stewardship is a strong ministry at St. John's. We have been blessed with philanthropic parishioners who support our balanced and modestly growing budget. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, parishioners have continued to give generously to our church.

The majority of our budget comes from annual giving. While St. John's has reserves, they represent an insignificant portion of our budgeted revenues. We have established a modest endowment for the future. Our church does not engage in non-parish fundraising activities.

Our Vestry prayerfully considers Stewardship every year, and our Stewardship Chairs engage a team of volunteers in a themed campaign to encourage parishioner participation, including heartfelt and inspiring letters, Sunday speakers, and other communications. We choose not to follow a strict every member canvas model—we only contact families who have not made a financial commitment by Pledge Sunday.

We pray that St. John's parishioners will focus on the one true provider—God—as we seek to help them balance financial resources between self, family, other charities, and our church. We accomplish our mission when we truly understand that nothing is ours, and we all must be good stewards of God's grace.

2020 REVENUE PROJECTED
\$1,152,270

2019 ACTUAL REVENUE
\$1,161,242

PLEDGES

579 FAMILIES
on active membership

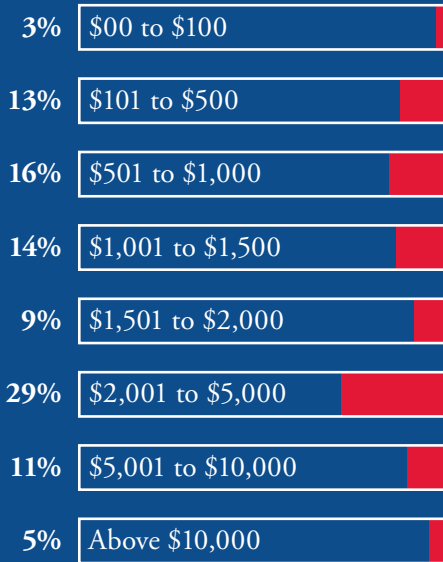


322 TOTAL
PLEDGES

Approximately **55%** of our
family membership pledges

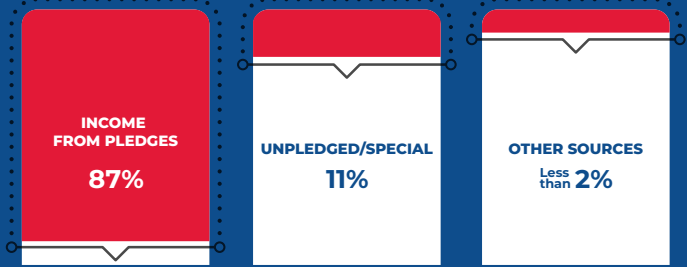
\$3,277

2019 AVERAGE PLEDGE

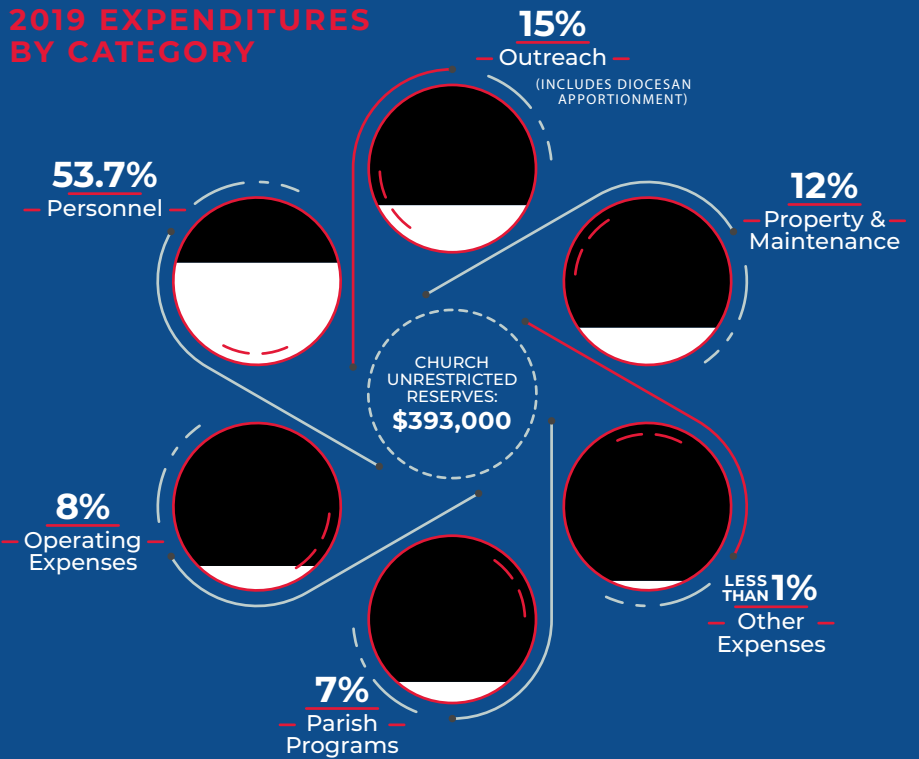


THE AVERAGE PLEDGE
FOR 2019 WAS UP
7.4% OVER 2018

REVENUE SOURCES



2019 EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY



2019 REVENUE SOURCES

GENERAL FUND PLEDGES: **\$998,901**

PLEDGES IN ARREARS: **\$13,261**

UNPLEDGED INCOME: **\$95,331**

SPECIAL OFFERINGS: **\$30,046**

ALL OTHER INCOME: **\$23,703**



Educational Excellence at St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School

FOUNDED

1951

ENROLLMENT

528

GRADES

Pre-Kindergarten–8th Grade

CAMPUSES

3

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Hugh Jebson

HEAD OF THE PRIMARY DIVISION

Ana Ibanez

HEAD OF THE LOWER DIVISION

Michael Salzer

HEAD OF THE MIDDLE DIVISION

Lisa Strauch

CHAPLAIN

Father James Reho

St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School is the primary ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church. Our school's success has been driven by a focus on academic excellence, citizenship, integrity, diligence, and inclusiveness. While the student body welcomes and includes children of different religious faiths, St. John's is known for its foundational Christian values and strong Episcopal identity. Students attend chapel daily and celebrate the Eucharist once a week. Divinity is part of the curriculum in all grades.

Associate Rector and Chaplain

Our Associate Rector and Chaplain to the school works in the school four days each week and is in the church on Sundays. Our school Chaplain leads chapel services including celebrating the Eucharist weekly on the Lower and Middle Division campuses, and is responsible for the Divinity curriculum. The Rector controls all matters of worship and religious education of the school and has use and control of all parish and school buildings. Religious education at the school includes the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church, in keeping with Judeo-Christian tradition.





Mission of Our School

Our mission is to prepare students for lifelong intellectual and spiritual growth, and we accomplish this mission year after year. As a result, St. John’s alumni live spiritually guided lives of accomplishment, service, and outreach.

Our school offers a traditional classical curriculum enhanced with Latin and Spanish, performing arts, visual arts, instrumental music, and athletics. We employ innovative tools and technologies that help students think critically, collaboratively, and creatively, developing well-rounded graduates who thrive in the area’s top high schools and at the nation’s top colleges.

The school currently operates on three campuses, with significant plans for capital improvements in progress. Grades 5–8 utilize the Middle Division campus on Plant Avenue, adjacent to downtown Tampa. Grades 1–4 are located at the Lower Division campus connected to St. John’s Church on Orleans Avenue. Pre-K and Kindergarten are a few blocks away in the Primary Division on Rome Avenue.

Master Planning

In 2015 a Master Planning Committee, supported by the Vestry and School Board of Trustees, was formed to evaluate the campuses for the future. The group identified needs for more spacious classrooms; outdoor

green space for sports and play; additional dedicated spaces for arts, music, and innovation; an expanded cafeteria; and enhanced security. As a result, St. John’s acquired additional land adjacent to the Middle Division campus, which will allow for two campuses instead of three. Future plans for renovations will allow for Grades 2–8 to be located at the Plant Avenue campus, and for grades pre-K–1 to be located at the Orleans Avenue campus.

The school has a no-deficit policy and a growing annual giving fund. As a result, the school budget is healthy. Efforts are made to keep tuition in the lower quartile of private school tuition in the Tampa area. Tuition assistance is available to school families that demonstrate financial need. Enthusiastic volunteer groups, such as the Parents’ Club and the Dads’ Club, support the mission and strategic goals of the school, encouraging parent involvement by promoting community among families.

Head of School and Enrollment

In 2019, after an extensive search, the St. John’s School Board of Trustees hired Hugh Jebson as our new Head of School. Mr. Jebson, along with the administration, faculty, and staff, quickly and seamlessly created a successful online learning curriculum in March 2020 through the end of the school year. St. John’s School also safely and successfully reopened on time in August 2020 for the 2020–2021 school year. The school is fully enrolled at 528 students, with waiting lists in every grade at the beginning of the school year.

Our Vibrant Tampa Bay Community

The City of Tampa, known as the commercial hub of Florida's West Coast, has a colorful history with roots in both early Spanish exploration and American expansion. The early Spanish called our Bay "perfect" when they accidentally happened upon it in the 1500s. American soldiers built Fort Brooke on the Bay's north end at the mouth of the Hillsborough River in the early 19th century, and the village of Tampa sprung up around it.

Today our city, located in fast-growing Hillsborough County, boasts a population of nearly 400,000—and more than 3.1 million in the greater Tampa Bay metro area. Tampa is an eclectic city with strong Latin heritage and other rich cultural influences that enliven our festivals and add distinctiveness to our local cuisines.

Tampa's economic base features tourism, agriculture, construction, finance, health care, government, technology, and maritime industry. The Port of Tampa, used for international trade and cruise lines, is the largest port in Florida. MacDill Air Force Base is home to the U.S. Central

Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command. Our higher education centers include the University of South Florida, the University of Tampa, and Hillsborough Community College. Tampa International Airport is consistently ranked as one of the best in the nation.

Our sunny, tropical weather, moderated by the surrounding waters, allows for ample year-round leisure activities such as boating, biking, beaches, campgrounds, and theme parks. We are well known for our professional sports teams: Tampa Bay Buccaneers football (2002 Super Bowl Champions), Tampa Bay Lightning hockey (2004 and 2020 Stanley Cup Champions), and Tampa Bay Rays baseball (2008 and 2020 American League pennants). Tampa is also the spring home of The New York Yankees. Our dynamic arts scene includes the Tampa Bay History Center, the Tampa Museum of Art, and the Straz Center for the Performing Arts. Tampa hosts large national and international events—including our fifth Super Bowl in February 2021.

The University of Tampa's Plant Hall features iconic minarets that add architectural interest to the Tampa skyline.



Downtown's newly completed Riverwalk, a 2.5-mile long pedestrian path, invigorates our urban core by connecting parks, cultural amenities, and dining options. Water Street Tampa, a 54-acre development underway along our waterfront, will add even more options for living and working here. With this type of smart, visionary investment in our future, Tampa is an attractive, vibrant, and growing community.





LOOKING AHEAD

The Lord has greatly blessed St. John's with gifted leadership, caring people, and a loving community that continues to grow. As the result of our recent self-study, we have a better understanding of our strengths and weaknesses. We believe that our review has been spiritually directed, and we trust that the Holy Spirit will confirm the right candidate for us.

Prayer for Discernment from The Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for St. John's Episcopal Parish and Day School, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. JOHN'S RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Paul Brokaw, *Co-Chair*

Jan Kelley, *Co-Chair*

Betsy Graham

Rich Hadlow

Laura Hobby

Jeff Hunt

Suzy Lopez

Christopher Lykes

Vicki Malizia

Lindsey Robbins

Ray Stoll

Steve Straske

Eric Williams

Our Future Rector

Based on our Parish Survey results (presented in no particular order), the Vestry and Search Committee of St. John's are praying for a Rector who:

- Values our liturgy, worship, and music traditions and keeps them vibrant and relevant.
- Is an articulate, compelling preacher and teacher who inspires and educates, while clearly relating the Word of God to our lives.
- Is a strong spiritual leader who has a personal relationship with God and an interest in serving all of God's people.
- Recognizes the importance of our Parish Day School and the unique opportunity it brings to evangelize our families and students.
- Is a warm, compassionate leader, accessible to parishioners from all age groups, backgrounds, and viewpoints.
- Supports openhearted pastoral care for all parishioners.
- Understands our need to evangelize, reach out to those around us, and attract young people and families for the future growth of our parish.
- Has strong social and communication skills with the ability to create and build a sense of community.
- Is a good steward of our facilities and a responsible financial manager.
- Has the administrative experience to manage a complex institution.



HOW TO APPLY

If you discern that God may be calling you to St. John's Church, please submit the following to:

The Rev. Canon Richard Norman

Canon to the Ordinary

The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida

rnorman@episcopalswfl.org

1. Résumé/CV
2. A copy of your updated OTM profile
3. A letter of interest that highlights how you feel you meet the needs of St. John's and why you feel called to serve as our Rector

Deadline: January 1, 2021

PARISH PROFILE **2020**



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

906 South Orleans Avenue ♦ Tampa, Florida 33606-2941