Saint John The Evangelist Catholic Church
1st Sunday of Lent | March 9, 2025
1008 Fortune Ave, Panama City, FL 32401
saintjohnpc.org | 850-763-1821

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@saintjohnpc.org. Emails are confidential and go directly to Fr. Kennell

Flocknote

Text STJ to 84576

Receive text messages or emails for announcements & upcoming events

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
saintjohnpc@saintjohnpc.org
Open Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm

Paige Morrone | Secretary
Lynn Sokoloski | Facilities Manager
Heather Hanna | Event Coordinator
Charlotte Dickey | Religious Education Director
Nic & Dot Wagner | Youth Ministry
Nick Labrie | Director of Mission Operations

Finance Council

David Fiorenza, Chair | 850-588-5347
Chris Brooks
Jackie Fowler
Tim Wheeler
Sean McNeil
Dcn. Earl Mirus
Sr. Grace Ford
Donna Couchigian

SACRAMENTAL QUESTIONS?

Children | Through 5th Grade

Charlotte Dickey | Religious Education
charlotte.dickey@saintjohnpc.org

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

Youth | Grades 6-12

Nic & Dot Wagner | Youth Ministry
youth@saintjohnpc.org

Contact for confirmation and questions regarding Catholic Student Ministries (CSM) - CSM meets Wednesdays at 6pm at St. Dominic

Adults | 18+

Fr. Thomas Kennell | Pastor
catholicism@saintjohnpc.org

Contact for questions regarding Adult Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion - Classes on becoming Catholic are on Tuesdays at 6:30 in the parish office

Anointing of the Sick - please 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 Dr. James Gagnon, MSW, LCSW at 850-877-0205.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

LENT

Return to me with your whole heart.

Stations of the Cross
Fridays | 5-5:30pm in the Church

Grow closer to Christ this Lent by meditating on His ultimate sacrifice for us. Join us for our weekly Stations of the Cross and stay after for Formation Fridays.

Formation Fridays (Dinner & Childcare Provided)
Fridays | 5:30-8pm in the Parish Hall

Join us Fridays of Lent for a simple soup dinner from 5:30-6:15 followed by a teaching series with Fr. Kennell on the Scriptural roots of the Mass and Eucharist. Childcare will be provided from 6:15-8pm.

Saturday Mass & Confessions
Saturdays March 8 - April 12th | 9am

In this season of prayer and conversion, Fr. Kennell will be offering a 9am Mass with confessions being heard immediately after.

Even now, says the LORD,
***return to me with your whole heart**, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning;*

Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God.

For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment.

Joel 2:12-13

Solemnities During Lent
March 19th & March 25th | Mass & Dinner

Solemnities are the highest celebrations in the liturgical year, even usurping the solemn fasting of Lent. Join us for a special 5:30 Mass followed by dinner, drinks, and dessert to celebrate the Solemnities of St. Joseph (March 19th) and the Annunciation (March 25th).

Lenten Penance Services
Three Opportunities Around the City

Join Catholics and priests from across the city for one of our three local Lenten Penance Services.
St Dominic | Mar. 31st, 6-8pm **St John the Evangelist** | April 8th, 6:30-8pm
Our Lady of the Rosary | April 9th, 6:30-8pm

A Letter from Fr. Thomas Kennell

Dear Parish Family,

Welcome to Lent! I hope that this season becomes a time of pruning for the bearing of lots of rich fruit.

I am an avid college football fan. I remember seeing a clip of the legendary Tim Tebow during the 2008 National Championship Game speaking to his fellow teammates at halftime. With all the intensity that he was known for, he busted into the middle of the team shouting, “We’ve got thirty minutes for the rest of our lives!” The truth of the statement is that they likely were never going to be in this position again: playing for a national championship. They needed to make the most of the opportunity and leave nothing behind.

My prayer is that we can approach this Lenten season and journey with the same attitude. Can we see the next forty days as if they were our only time of preparation to meet the Lord? We make this forty day journey with Him, who at the end of it, lays down his life in order to take it up again. Of course, we will likely go through a few more (perhaps forty years’ more) Lents; but if we approached each with the seriousness that this is my only time to really work on the areas of my life that need converting and transformation in order to bring me into greater relationship with the Lord, then we can be sure that we will come out on the other side without any regrets.

God bless you!

-Fr. Kennell

UPCOMING & NOTEWORTHY

CCW Lenten Day of Reflection

March 15th | Begins with Mass at 9am in the Church

All women are invited to join the East Central Deanery Council of Catholic Women for a Lenten day of reflection with guest speaker, Matthew Knee, the executive director of Catholic Charities. **No cost, no registration.** Bring a donation for Catholic Charities food pantry: canned meats, fruits, veggies, soups, stews, peanut butter, jelly, cash, or checks. There will be a light lunch offered along with a silent auction.

Questions? 850-866-3456 or bernia.vicky78@gmail.com

The Third Option - Session 8

March 18th | 6 to 8pm
St. Dominic's Community Center

This week's topic - Childhood Issues & Emotional Baggage.

The Third Option is a great program for couples & individuals that helps relationships flourish. This 14 session program runs biweekly with one topic covered per session. You can enter the program at any time & you can attend as a couple or alone!

The Third Option has a suggested donation of $10 per person per class.

Questions?
BayThirdOption.com | info@saintdominicpc.com

Adult Coed Volleyball

March 13th & April 10th | 5 to 7pm
St. Dominic's MCCC Gym

Serving up fellowship! Join us for adult coed volleyball rooted in prayer, fun, & connection. Open to those over 18 years old.

SJCA Preschool Seats Available

3 year old room | 7 spots available

Scan here to submit an application for enrollment.

Questions?
Office@sjseagles.org | 850-763-1775

Men's Exodus Lent

Mondays of Lent | 7 to 7:45am
Parish Hall

All men of the parish are invited to join us for coffee, fellowship, and pray using the Exodus Lent devotional. We'll meet at 7am and wrap up by 7:45am to give you time to get to work or stay for the 8:15am Mass.

Call or text Dr. Nic Wagner at 850-524-9118 for more info.

Events this Week

Sunday, March 9
Coffee & Bagels **after the 8:15am Mass**
~We will be offering bagels instead of donuts during the Lenten season

Monday, March 10
7am - Men's Exodus Lent in hall

Tuesday, March 11
6:15pm - Catholic in Recovery
6:30pm - OCIA in parish office

Wednesday, March 12
9:30am - Women's Bible Study in parish office
6:30pm - CSM (6-12th Grade) at St. Dominic

Thursday, March 13
6:30pm - Knights of Columbus Business Meeting in parish hall

Friday, March 14 (Formation Fridays)
5pm - Stations of the Cross
5:30pm - Lenten Supper
6:15pm - Childcare & Lenten Study Begins

Saturday, March 15
9am - CCW Day of Reflection (Public Mass at 9am for all who wish to attend)
8:30am - Fishers of Men's Breakfast at St. Dominic

Altar Server Training

March 29th | 1 to 2:30pm

St. John is recruiting for the Altar Server program. The program is open to all boys who have received their first Holy Communion through college graduates. The Church calls Altar Servers to have a special role in assisting the Priest and Deacon in worship and to represent the church community in the sanctuary during the Mass. Participating in this important ministry will make memories for a lifetime.

A **mandatory training session** for current and new servers will be held on **Saturday March 29th from 1-2:30pm**. At least one parent is required to attend the training session. For more information, please reach out to Steve Goodwin at 850-528-5001.

WHY DO CATHOLICS EAT FISH ON FRIDAYS?

The practice of eating fish on Fridays among Catholics, especially during Lent, is a tradition rooted in the Church's call for abstinence from meat. This tradition is deeply intertwined with the liturgical significance of Friday as the day of Christ's crucifixion.

Historical and Theological Background

The tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays dates back to the earliest days of Christianity. The practice serves as a form of penance, commemorating Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross, which occurred on a Friday. Early Christians adopted the custom of marking this day through a specific act of sacrifice – abstaining from eating meat, a food traditionally seen as a luxury.

The Significance of Fish

Fish, on the other hand, has been considered a suitable alternative to meat. This is not because of a theological distinction between types of flesh but rather due to historical and cultural contexts where fish was seen as a more common or less luxurious food. Additionally, fish holds various symbolic meanings in Christianity. It has been used as a secret symbol by early Christians to identify each other and is linked to several biblical stories, such as the multiplication of loaves and fishes and the apostles being called "fishers of men".

Modern Practices and Misconceptions

It's important to clarify that the Church does not mandate the consumption of fish as the only alternative to meat. Catholics can choose to eat other forms of food such as vegetables or grains. The key aspect is the act of abstaining from meat as a form of penance. Over the years, there have been misconceptions and myths about the reasons behind this practice, such as the Church trying to support the fish industry. These theories have been debunked by historians and theologians who affirm that the practice is primarily about penance and commemoration of Christ's Passion.

The Role of Church Law

Canon law specifies the days and circumstances under which Catholics are to abstain from meat. This includes all Fridays during Lent, with Ash Wednesday also being a day of both fasting and abstinence. The law is flexible outside of Lent, allowing local bishops' conferences to tailor the observance of penance to fit cultural contexts, which can include substituting other forms of penance in place of abstinence from meat.

Conclusion

Eating fish on Fridays is a practice rich in historical and spiritual significance. It serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by Christ and calls the faithful to reflect on their own spiritual lives. While the specifics of the practice can vary, the underlying principles of penance, sacrifice, and unity in Christ remain at the heart of why Catholics continue this tradition today.

Mass Intentions

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

Saturday, March 8, 2025
4:30pm.....People of the Parish
Sunday, March 9, 2025
1st Sunday of Lent
8:15am.....†Helen Sabo by The Turner Family
10:45am.....†Roberto Medina, Jr. by John & Jacque Wyatt
Monday, March 10, 2025
8:15am.....Titus Smith by Allison Blomquist
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
5:30pm.....Pope Francis
Wednesday, March 12, 2025
8:15am.....Heather Smith by Allison Blomquist
Thursday, March 13, 2025
5:30pm.....Seminarians by the CCW
Friday, March 14, 2025
8:15am.....Jen Tincher by Chris Stott
Saturday, March 15, 2025
4:30pm.....†Terri Albin by George Penton
Sunday, March 16, 2025
2nd Sunday of Lent
8:15am.....People of the Parish
10:45am.....Fr. Thomas Kennell by Jackie Fowler

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.

Prayers for Healing

Susan Spindler - surgery, Jerry Hicks - cancer, David Parish - cancer, Mary Kay Collins, Ken Thomas, Dee Jackson

Repose of the Soul

†Clint Richards, †Crystal Martinez, †Dr. Michael McCormick, †Linda Todd, †Josephine Richards, †Pam Smith

Sunday, March 9, 2025

EAGLE NEWS

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, March 10th -	Spring Picture Day - Preschool - 9th (Dress Out)
Monday, March 10th -	Graduation Photos - 8th Grade Cap & Gown
Friday, March 14th -	End of Third 9 Nine Weeks/ PowerSchool Closes
Saturday, March 15th -	Last day to order SJCA 24-25 Yearbook
Monday, March 17th -	Spring Holidays begin for Kindergarten to 8th Grades
Monday, March 24th -	Return from Spring Holidays
Friday, April 4th -	3rd Quarter Report Cards

2024-2025 SCHOOL SPIRIT SHIRTS

Orders have been placed—we'll notify you when they arrive! A limited stock will be available for $20 each.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual

SIP & SUPPORT FUNDRAISER

DATE: APRIL 26TH, 2025
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: ST. JOHN PARISH HALL
TICKETS: GO ON SALE MARCH 24TH, 2025

Silent auction, wine toss, raffle, drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres

SIP AND SUPPORT
ST. JOHN CATHOLIC ACADEMY
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BECOME A SPONSOR

OR SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH 3 BUSINESSES

It's that time!

Don't forget to submit your Step Up for Students Award ID to complete the enrollment process for the 25-26 academic year!

To process your Step Up for Students scholarship, SJCA requires each student's Award ID, as Step Up does not provide this information directly.

How to Find Your Award ID:

1. Log into your EMA account.
2. Click "My Students" → Select "View" under the active student.
3. Your Award ID will be listed under "Scholarship Status".

Please provide the exact Award ID(s) for up to five students as shown in your account.

Final Step:
Once SJCA submits the School Enrollment Form, you must log into EMA and approve the enrollment request on your dashboard.

For assistance, contact the school office at 850-763-1775.

Scan the QR code to submit your Step Up Award ID:

Step Up For Students

Spring PICTURE DAY

Monday, March 10th

Students may wear their school uniforms or their Sunday best - according to our dress code guidelines:

- **No Jeans**
- **Pants must not have holes in them**
- **Sleeveless tops/dresses not allowed**
- **Dresses and skirts to the knee**
- **Shoes must have a back and heels must be school appropriate**

THIS WEEK'S VIRTUE IS: *Humility*

DEFINITION OF HUMILITY:
Awareness that all our gifts come from God and appreciation for the gifts of others

PRAYER FOR HUMILITY:
Dear Jesus, You said, "Learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29). You are God, yet You became little out of love for me. I desire to become little for love of You. Help me to be honest about my strengths and weaknesses.

HUMILITY LOOKS LIKE: Thinking of others before yourself

HUMILITY SOUNDS LIKE: You can go ahead of me.

DISCIPLE of CHRIST

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

Ages 1 to PK4

Schedule your preschool tour today to enroll for the 25-26 school year!

Scan the QR code to get started.

See you soon!

Order your 2024-2025

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Last day to order your yearbook is March 15th!

through Memory Book!
shop.memorybook.com

School Code:
990048M

Please contact the school office with any questions.

A Lenten Prayer for the Pilgrimage of Hope

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Heavenly Father,

As we journey through this holy season of Lent, may our hearts be open to Your grace and our steps guided by faith. Like pilgrims seeking Your light, help us to walk in hope, trusting in Your mercy and love. Strengthen us to embrace sacrifice, deepen our prayer, and serve others with compassion. May our Lenten journey draw us closer to You, renewing our spirits and filling us with the hope that comes from Christ's resurrection.

Amen

Contact Us: 850.763.1775
St. John Catholic Academy
@stjohncatholicacademy
StJohnCatholicAcademy.org
Office@SJSEagles.org

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

DIRECTORY OF MINISTRIES

Adoration (St. Dominic)
St. Dom Parish Office....850-785-4574
St. Dominic's has a perpetual adoration chapel that is open to everyone 24/7! Contact their parish office for the door code and to sign-up for a weekly adoration hour

Association of St. Jude
John Daly.....850-527-1143

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. The next breakfast will be on **March 15th**.*

Knights of Columbus
Mike Tierney.....850-319-1945

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

Men's Bible Study
Warren Phillips.....850-896-0801
Al Kidd.....850-257-4149
Meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm in the parish office.

Men's Club
Lee Fry.....850-867-3916

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)

Natural Family Planning
Melissa Cornman.....407-415-6575

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. This fall & spring, meetings will be on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6-8pm** at St. Dominic. Join anytime!*

Women's Morning Bible Study
Kathy Kidd.....850-814-7747
Martha Cordell.....850-814-4619
*Meets weekly on **Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30am** in the parish office. Currently studying the book of Acts through a Bible Study guide called "Gospel on the Ground"*

Women's Socials
heather.hanna@saintjohnpc.org
*Typically on the **first Saturday from 10am-noon** in the parish hall for women of all ages. The next social is April 5th.*

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

The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible.
Please support them when you can.

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