



# **The Shamrock**

## ***Newsletter of St. Patrick's Anglican Church***

### ***Port St. John, Florida***

December 2025 issue 8– 12



#### **Father Michael's Musings**



**December 2025**



In this modern world, Christmas is often the season of anxiety, depression and heartfelt longing. The world presses its relentless message of material happiness and nostalgic reminiscence, but it doesn't usually cure, or even lessen, the pain of the losses of our lives. The earthly reality of the birth of our Lord was no less desperate. Joseph married a girl who was pregnant from suspicious circumstance, and they suffered ridicule and judgment from family and friends. They brought the baby into the world while on the road, in the most humble and unsanitary circumstances imaginable. Within days of the miraculous birth, they received word that they were being hunted and became homeless refugees on the way to restart their lives in a foreign land.

It is only the spiritual aspect of Christmas that can bring relief from the pressures and disappointments of this life, and kindle the warm embers of peace and joy in our hearts. An angel announces the pregnancy to Mary. An angel re-assures Joseph in his decision to go through with the wedding. In the humble stable, surrounded by the sounds and smells of animals, it is the chorus of angels that lights the room, and fills the hearts of the family and the shepherds who witnessed the new born King with peace and joy. It is the Christmas star, leading the Wise Men, that illuminates the joy and hope that is realized in the first Christmas.

Since it took miraculous intervention to proclaim and establish the first Christmas, we should not be surprised that it will require the same mystical intervention to enlighten Christmas in our own too desperate and difficult circumstance. We can't find that remedy in the materialism and shallowness of the culture and our incessant media. We find that comfort and peace in the sacraments, in the community of love, which is the Church. We at St. Patrick's invite you to join us in the celebration that transcends the culture, the pressure and the fears of our times. We invite you to join us in the proclamation of peace and the triumph of love that is the Nativity of our Lord.

**God bless you,**

**Father Michael**

#### **Prayer List & Pastoral Needs:**

***"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." — Philippians 4:6***

**At St. Patrick's, we are committed to lifting up one another in prayer and offering support through all of life's seasons. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer or pastoral care, we encourage you to share those needs with us.**

**\* Call the Church Office: 321-802-1311 Submit Online: [stpatrickspsj.org/prayer-concerns](http://stpatrickspsj.org/prayer-concerns)**

## Cookie Walk & Vendor Fair

**Saturday, December 13 • 9:00 AM–12:00 PM**  
**St. Patrick's Anglican Church – Parish Hall, Port St. John**

Kick off your Christmas season with trays of beautiful home-baked cookies and a cheerful marketplace of local vendors. Choose your favorites to build a custom assortment, then browse handmade gifts, seasonal décor, and more—perfect for stocking stuffers and last-minute surprises.



### **What to Expect**

- Build-your-own cookie boxes from a wide variety of homemade cookies
- Local craft and small-business vendors with Christmas gifts and goodies
- Hot coffee and friendly fellowship in the Parish Hall

### **How You Can Help**

- **Bakers:** Bring clearly labeled, nut-noted cookies (5 dozen+ cookies would be greatly welcomed!).
- **Volunteers:** Greeters, packers, and clean-up helpers are appreciated.
- **Spread the word:** Invite neighbors, coworkers, and friends.

### **Don't have space at home to cook?**

The Church Kitchen will be available on the Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before Cookie Walk. *Sign up sheet in Parish Hall for times.*

### **Cookie Walk Meetings:**

- Volunteer Meeting after Church on Sunday December 7th,
- Preparation and Packing Cookies on Friday December 12th at 1:00 PM
- Setup for Cookie Walk Saturday December 13th 7:00-8:45 AM
- Clean up and setup the parish Hall December 13th 12:00 PM

### **Details & Participation**

For vendor inquiries, baking guidelines, or to volunteer, please contact us at: [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com) or call Linda (321) 480-0927, Carolyn (203) 500-9098 or Andrea (321) 432-2145. Follow us on Facebook for updates and previews of featured cookies and vendors. We look forward to welcoming you on **Saturday, December 13, 9:00 AM–12:00 PM** for a sweet morning of fellowship and festive shopping!

## Grandparents raising Grandchildren Support Group

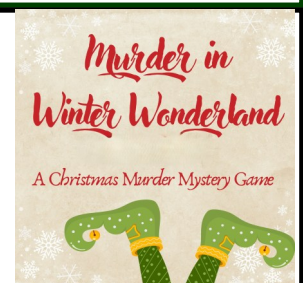
**Thursday, December 4 • 10:00 AM–12:00 PM • Church Library**



Join fellow grandparents for conversation, resources, and encouragement. Whether you're new to caregiving or have been at it for years, you're welcome. Light refreshments provided. Invite a friend! *Contact the church for more information at 321-802-1311 or [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com)*

## First Friday Family Fun Night In December

Get ready for **our next** evening of fun, food, and fellowship at our **First Friday Family Fun Event!** On **Friday December 5th from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM.** This **intergenerational gathering** is perfect for all ages—whether you're young, young-at-heart, or somewhere in between. This month—Murder in Winter Wonderland. Come solve the Mystery!! And decorate a Christmas Tree! Pizza, Hot Chocolate, and Dessert provided.



**Bring the whole family (and a friend or two!) for a night of fun, fellowship, and laughter. See you there! For more information contact the church office at: 321-802-1311**

## Parish Work Day

Saturday, December 19th | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Join us for our next Parish Work Day! There will be plenty of projects both inside and outside, so there's a way for everyone to help. If you aren't able to work due to limitations, please still come and enjoy the fellowship.



Afterwards, stay for **Fr. Chet's famous Gourmet Hot Dogs with all the fixings** — the perfect reward for a morning of service together.

## Ladies Lunch Out (and Gentlemen Too!)

Join us for great food and even better fellowship at our monthly Ladies Lunch Out—open to gentlemen as well! Let's gather after the **10:00 AM service** and enjoy a meal together at a local favorite. **No December lunch**



**January 18th—TBD —. Please let Carolyn know if you plan to attend so we can reserve enough seats-203-500-9098.** *We look forward to seeing you there for good conversation, community, and comfort food!*

## LADIES FELLOWSHIP & CRAFT GROUP

All ladies are invited to join us for fellowship, creativity, and fun at our next gathering! **Monday, January 19th | 6:00–8:00 PM** **\*No group in December**



Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Bring your current project or just come to enjoy the company. It's a wonderful time to connect, share ideas, and encourage one another. Please see Mandy Valko if you have questions, 317-601-3216.

## Veterans, Veteran Spouses, and First Responder Breakfast



Join us for a hot breakfast and warm fellowship on **Saturday December 27th at 9:00**

**AM** as we honor those who have served and those who serve today—along with the spouses who carry the load beside them. We'll share a brief prayer of thanksgiving and encouragement, and take time to check in with one another. \*There is a sign up sheet for the Veterans Breakfast for items in the parish hall.

## Help us fill our Pantry Box



On the First Sunday of each month, we gather not only to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries with a blessing, but also to share God's love in a practical way. We invite you to bring a non-perishable item for our pantry box. Suggested items include:

- Canned goods, soup, or chili
- Easy-to-eat meals
- Peanut butter and jelly

These donations help care for **parishioners in need** and are also shared with **families at Fairglen Elementary**. Every small contribution makes a big difference. Together, we can bless

## Secret Angels – Cleaning & Fellowship



Looking for a simple way to serve and enjoy fellowship? Join our **Secret Angels** every Wednesday morning at **8:00 AM-9:00 AM** as we give the church and parish hall a quick refresh. *Come lend a hand—even once a month makes a difference. Many hands make light work, and faithful hearts make it joyful!*

## Adult Sunday School

Join us for a new Adult Sunday School series as we journey through the Book of Genesis, 9:00 AM between services in the parish hall.

Fr. Michael Kerouac will guide us through this engaging and thought-provoking study.

Come with your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity as we explore how Genesis still speaks to us today. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. We look forward to growing together in God's Word!

All past weeks are available on the website: <https://stpatrickspsj.org/adult-education>



## Student Sunday School

This Winter, our focus will be on the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Sunday School is open to students in 3rd through 8th grade and is taught as a combined class.

After the announcements during the 10:00 AM service, children will be invited to follow their teacher to the Parish Hall and will return in time for Holy Communion.

Are you interested in reviewing or downloading the curriculum:

<https://stpatrickspsj.org/sunday-school-curriculum>



## Help Us Restock Church Supplies

We're in need of a few essential items to keep our church running smoothly and welcoming for all. If you're able to donate, please consider picking up any of the following: **(Disposable) Coffee Cups & Drink Cups - Plates (10 inch and 6 inch) and Bowls - Cases of Water - Paper Towels - Toilet Paper - Cleaning Supplies**

*Donations can be dropped off in the Parish Hall during the week or brought with you to Sunday service. Every contribution—big or small—makes a difference.*

*Thank you for your generosity and support!*

## We Need Your Help!

Are you interested in serving on Sunday mornings or helping behind the scenes? We are looking for volunteers to serve as readers, acolytes, altar guild members, flower guild, or with the communication team.

Your time and talents make a difference in the life of our parish. If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please reach out to the church office at [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com) or leave a message at (321) 802-1311.

Together, we can keep our worship and parish life flourishing!







## Beginning Bridge

Curious about bridge or ready to brush up the basics? Join our friendly beginner group **every Thursday from 1:00–3:00 PM in the Church Library**. We'll cover foundational bidding, simple play strategies, and plenty of supervised hands. No partner or experience needed; cards and score sheets provided. *Note: No bridge on Christmas Day (December 25th).*





# December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"May God bless you with many more years of life and love." (Proverbs 9:11)</i></p>						
<p><b>Claire Frazier</b></p>	<p><b>Michael Malarae</b></p>	<p><b>Sean Williams</b></p>	<p><b>Michael &amp; Melissa Simmen</b></p>			
<p><b>Fr. Tim Gouge</b></p>	<p><b>Melissa Richardson</b></p>	<p><b>Kyra Williams</b></p>				
<p><b>30th</b> <b>Advent 1/St. Andrew</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist (Live) <b>Adult Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM Eucharist (Live &amp; Streamed) <b>Student Sunday School</b></p>	<p><b>1</b> <b>St. Andrew</b> (transferred) <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>3</b> <b>Secret Angels Workday</b> 8:00 AM <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Eucharist</b> 6:00 PM (Live &amp; Streamed)</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Raising Grandchildren</b> 10a-12p <b>Bridge</b> 1pm-3pm</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>First Friday Fun Night</b> 6:00 PM-8:00 PM</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> 
<p><b>7</b> <b>Advent 2</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist (Live) <b>Adult Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM Eucharist (Live &amp; Streamed) <b>Student Sunday School</b> <b>Vestry</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>9</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Baking for Cookie Walk</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> <b>Secret Angels Workday</b> 8:00 AM <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Baking for Cookie Walk</b> <b>Eucharist</b> 6:00 PM (Live &amp; Streamed)</p>	<p><b>11</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Bridge</b> 1pm-3pm <b>Baking for Cookie Walk</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Cookie Walk Prep</b> 1:00 PM</p>	<p><b>13</b> <b>Cookie Walk</b> Setup 7:00 AM Vendors 8:00 AM Start 9:00 AM End 12:00 PM</p> 
<p><b>14</b> <b>Advent 3</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist (Live) <b>Adult Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM Eucharist (Live &amp; Streamed) <b>Student Sunday School</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>16</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>17</b> <b>Secret Angels Workday</b> 8:00 AM <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Eucharist</b> 6:00 PM (Live &amp; Streamed)</p>	<p><b>18</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Bridge</b> 1pm-3pm</p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>20</b> <b>Church Workday</b> 9:00am-12:00 pm Lunch Provided <b>Port St. John Christmas Parade</b> 11:00 AM</p>
<p><b>21</b> <b>Advent 4</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist (Live) <b>Adult Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM Eucharist (Live &amp; Streamed) <b>Student Sunday School/Children's Church</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>23</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>24</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Christmas Eve</b> Family Service 6:00 PM Lessons/Carols 11:00 PM Midnight Mass 11:30 PM</p>	<p><b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> No Morning Prayer <b>Eucharist</b> 10:00 am</p>	<p><b>26</b> <b>St. Stephen</b> Morning Prayer 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p> 	<p><b>27</b> <b>St. John</b> Veteran's &amp; First Responder Breakfast 9:00 AM</p>
<p><b>28</b> <b>Holy Innocents</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist (Live) <b>Adult Sunday School</b> 10:00 AM Eucharist (Live &amp; Streamed) No Sunday School</p>	<p><b>29</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>30</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>	<p><b>31</b> <b>Secret Angels Workday</b> 8:00 AM <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed) <b>Eucharist</b> 6:00 PM (Live &amp; Streamed)</p>	<p><b>January 1</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:00 AM (Streamed)</p>		

**St. Patrick's Anglican Church**  
**4797 Curtis Boulevard**  
**Port St. John, FL 32927**



**Phone:** 321-802-1311

**E-mail:** [stpatrickspsj@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickspsj@gmail.com)

**Web:** <https://www.Stpatrickspsj.org>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/StPatspsj>

**St. Patrick's Anglican Church is a caring loving community. Please join us for one of the Sunday or Weekday Services.**

The Diocese of the Eastern United States is a vibrant and growing family of parishes serving our Christian family from Pennsylvania to Florida. As members of the worldwide Traditional Anglican Church, The Anglican Catholic Church, we are part of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Our teaching and practice are based soundly on the Holy Bible and the traditional Book of Common Prayer.

**Archbishop Juan Garcia**

**Bishop William Bower, SSC**

**Rev. Fr. Michael Kerouac, Rector**

**Rev. Fr. Tim Gouge, Vicar**

**Rev. Fr. Chester O'Brien, Curate**

**Service Times**

**Sunday Communion Service**

8:00 AM Service – Live

10:00 AM Service –Live & Streamed  
*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Healing Service and Fellowship –Next November 30th, 2025*

**Wednesday Communion Service**

6:00 PM Service—Live & Streamed

**Morning Prayer Services**

Mon.-Tues.-Wed.-Thurs.– Fri.

8:00 AM—Streamed

**Vestry:** Senior Warden: Andrea Mustafa;; Junior Warden : Linda Simmen, Treasurer: Jeff Simmen; Secretary: Donna McFall, Vestry at Large: Lionel Felix, Georgia Weston, Lea Taylor-Malarae & Mike Brady

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**Port St. John Holiday Parade**

On Saturday December 20th—St. Patrick's Anglican Church will be participating in the 36th Annual PSJ Holiday Parade.

We will need students and adults to participate, to give out small bags with candy canes with the church information, and to support the church in this first time endeavor.

**Theme is Winter Wonderland**—Please See **Donna McFall** for more Details

