



St. John's Church

The Parish Chronicle

December 25, 2022
CHRISTMAS DAY



Directory

2326 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201-3431
Ph: (313) 962-7358
www.StJohnsDetroit.org

Rector

Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC

Assisting Priest Emeritus

Fr. Michael J. Bedford

Dir. of Music, Organist, & Master of the Choir

Dr. Huw R. Lewis, FRCO

Edwards Organ Scholar

Abraham Wallace, MMus

Ministry & Staff

Office Manager

Elizabeth Savage

Senior Warden

Peter Grim

Junior Warden

Morley Stevenson

Interim Treasurer

Glenn Burton

Assistant Treasurer

Cathy Morgan

Acolyte Master

Morley Stevenson

Altar Guild Directresses

Virginia Burton &
Sarah Babcock

Armitage Men's Club

Pat Walters

Daughters of the King

Lena Nealley

Episcopal Church Women

Debbie Swain

Graphics Design

Cam Walker

Lectors Guild

Brian Campbell

Outreach Committee Chair

Catherine Morgan

Usher Captains

John Barge & Peter Grim



Rector's Rambling

A hearty welcome to all those joining us for worship at St. John's! I wish you a very Merry Christmas and the blessings of peace

on these Holy Days.

For 163 years, St. John's has been a "destination" church, with people coming from far and wide to worship in this beautiful building with its sublime music, traditional Anglican liturgy, and wonderful people.

Christmas Eve and Day, and all the Sundays following, are wonderful days to be at St. John's. Not only are they wonderful days to worship the Lord, but here at St. John's we delve deeply into the fullness of the timeless Anglican expression of the faith once delivered to the Saints.

It has been a long time since St. John's averaged a high of over 2500 people on Sunday. But it has also been almost 25 years since we hit a low of 37! Covid shutdowns have been a setback, but God has been at work in rebuilding St. John's, and we believe that not only

is He not finished, but there are amazing things ahead for this parish and its parishioners – both those here now and for those not *yet* members of it.

Our neighborhood is undergoing a transformation and many are discovering why people come to St. John's: Liturgy, music, building, preaching, location, theology, fellowship. Rarely is it one or two things, but a combination of each thing supported by the others. We call it "the package". Our Anglican tradition, adhered to because it is the package, inspires people to love Jesus, and to become more and more like him. To become Saints!

If you are visiting today we invite you to consider joining in on all the wonderful things God has in store for this parish! Become a "regular" by worshipping with us on Sundays and by getting involved in the ministries and activities of the parish and the neighborhood.

You are most welcome to be a part of all the wonderful things God is doing here: Holy Days, Sundays, and every day of the week!



ABOUT ST. JOHN'S

To Our Visitors

Welcome! The parishioners and clergy of St. John's are delighted that you have come to worship with us. We hope this house of prayer provides you with a place in which you can find solace, comfort, and strength. We invite your inquiries about the ministries available here at St. John's.

We offer a barrier-free environment for the infirm and handicapped. An access ramp for wheel chairs is located at the **SOUTHWEST** entrance of the church, near Woodward Avenue in the garden. There is also an elevator in the building which provides access to the undercroft, so everyone may fully participate in activities and fellowship.

We would be very pleased if you plan to return to St. John's on a regular basis, to **WORSHIP** as part of our parish family. Please complete a Visitor's Form located in the Order of Service and place it in the collection plate or give it to an usher.

Thank you for coming! We look forward to greeting you following the service today and hope to chat with you during our time of fellowship in the undercroft.

Communion Procedure

The Episcopal House of Bishops, in a 1979 teaching, lays out the following guideline for non-Episcopalians to receive communion in an Episcopal Church: The persons should 1) have been Baptized with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, 2) believe Christ is present in the sacrament, 3) have been admitted to Holy Communion in their own denomination, and 4) are attempting, by God's grace, to live in love and charity with their neighbor. If you have any questions, please speak to the priest.

To receive the Host, raise your crossed hands, right palm over left. You may also receive directly on the tongue. If you do not wish to receive the Cup, cross your arms over your chest and wait for the chalice bearer to pass by.

If you are not receiving communion, you still may come forward to the rail, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing.

If you are physically unable to approach the rail, please inform an usher and the Sacrament will be brought to you.

Pastoral Care

Please inform the clergy if you or a family member are ill, hospitalized, or unable to attend the regular worship of the Church so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. Please contact the clergy to discuss arrangements for baptisms, weddings, or burials **before** any announcement or other plans are made.

Outreach

Every Sunday: *Food or clothing* may be deposited in the basket at the entrance of the church to aid the neighborhood ministry to the poor through **Crossroads**.

First Sunday of the month: The *loose offerings* collected are given to support the mission work of the Church in Malawi, Central Africa. Please add a cash gift or extra check in the collection plate every first Sunday of the month!

Third Sunday of the month: The *loose offerings* collected are given to support the ministry of the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S DECEMBER 25—JANUARY 1

Sunday 12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY	7:00 A 11:00 A	Morning Meditation (online) Low Mass with Carols
Monday 12/26 ST. STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR	7:00 A 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) OFFICE CLOSED TODAY AA Meeting
Tuesday 12/27 ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer
Wednesday 12/28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Thursday 12/29 ST. THOMAS BECKET, ARCHBISHOP AND MARTYR, 1170 A.D.	7:00 A 10:00 A 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion and Benediction Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Friday 12/30	7:00 A 11:00 A	Morning Meditation (online) AA Meeting OFFICE CLOSED TODAY
Saturday 12/31 ST. SYLVESTER I, POPE, 355 A.D.	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
Sunday 1/1 THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD	7:00 A 7:30 A 8:00 A 10:00 A 11:15 A 5:30 P	Morning Meditation (online) Morning Prayer (chapel) Holy Communion (chapel) Choral Holy Communion Sunday School Coffee Hour Evening Prayer

*Want to stay in touch during the week?
To join the newsgroup, e-mail a request to
Webmaster@stjohnsdetroit.org
Social Media
Wedwww.Facebook.com/StJohnsDetroit
www.Twitter.com/StJohnsDetroit
www.YouTube.com/StJohnsPriest*

Collect for the Feast of the Nativity

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin; Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

¶ This Collect is to be said daily throughout the Octave

THE DAILY OFFICE READINGS (The Lectionary)*

Morning Prayer

CHRISTMAS DAY	89:1-30	Isa. 9:2-7 Luke 2:1-20
ST. STEPHEN	118	2 Chron. 24:17-22 Acts 6
ST. JOHN EVANGELIST	23, 24	Exod. 33:12 John 13:20-26, 31-35
HOLY INNOCENTS	8, 26	Jer. 31:1-6, 15-16 Matt. 18:1-14
<i>December 29</i>	27	Isa. 56:1-8 1 John 1
<i>December 30</i>	33	Isa. 59:1-3, 15b-21 1 John 2:1-17
<i>December 31</i>	147	Isa. 62 1 John 2:18

Evening Prayer

CHRISTMAS DAY	45	Micah 4:1-5, & 5:2-4 1 John 4:7-14
ST. STEPHEN	30, 31:1-6	Wisdom 4:7-15 Acts 7:59-8:8
ST. JOHN EVANGELIST	97	Isa. 6:1-8 Rev. 1
HOLY INNOCENTS	19, 126	Isa. 54:1-13 Mark 10:13-16, 23-31
<i>December 29</i>	20, 21:1-6	Isa. 57:13 Heb. 1
<i>December 30</i>	111, 112	Isa. 60:13 Heb. 2
<i>December 31</i>	90, 150	Deut. 10:12-11:1 Heb. 3

* If there is no "ending" verse listed, then read * If there is no "ending" verse listed, then read to the end of the chapter.

WISH LIST — PLEASE HELP US WITH THESE ITEMS

Repainting of the black iron fencing	\$3,000
Cement curb on freeway side of building supporting historic fencing along building	\$8,200
<i>Sanding, repairing, and repainting of the surface of the fences.</i>	

Announcements

SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER

No Service tonight (December 25) but resumes January 1, Sunday Evening Prayer is prayed at St. John's at **5:30 PM**. Join us for this 25 minute Service to finish the Sabbath Day as we started it - in worship and thanksgiving.

Weekday Services This Week –

Morning Meditation

- ◆ Streamed daily at 7:00 AM

Holy Communion

- ◆ Tuesday, Wednesday at 12:15 PM
- ◆ Thursday 10:30 AM

Evening Prayer

- ◆ Tuesday - Thursday at 4 PM (Ministry Center)

Services can be attended in person, or by livestream

Christian Education – Sunday School meets at 10 AM in the Undercroft resuming in January. All children welcome.

Warm Fuzzy Tree - Collecting hats, mittens, scarves, etc. until January 15th.

Advent Soup Luncheon - TODAY after the 10 AM Service. Join us for a bowl of homemade soup. Your donation supports the outreach ministry of the St. Catherine's Guild.

Greening of the Sanctuary— TODAY after the 10 AM Service we will go upstairs after a bowl of soup to finish the decorating the church by decorating the altar and choir area.

Pledge Cards - be sure to submit your 2023 Pledge Card as soon as possible.

Alpha Course - Next session will take place in January.

Parking Note - being a member of St. John's does not mean that we can park in our side lot for free for Pistons/Red Wings games, shows at the Fox, etc. The lot is leased to Olympia Development, and we have use of it for our church related events, but not at other times when they are using it.

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULES

December 25

**NO 8 AM SERVICE
TODAY**

**11 AM SERVICE ONLY
Low Mass with Carols**

January 1

Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz
S – Langmuir

Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Jane Burton
Elisabeth Johnson
Carolyn Ricca

Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell
Morley Stevenson
Brian Campbell

Ushers 10:00 AM:

Peter Grim
Bryan Monaco
Thomas Nash
William Porter

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour

Ushers in reserve: David
Boulton, Morley Stevenson

The Vestry and Officers of St. John's

Peter Grim, Senior Warden
Morley Stevenson, Junior Warden
Durene Brown, Secretary
Glenn Burton, Interim Treasurer
Cathy Morgan, Assistant Treasurer

Terms expire January 2023

Sarah Babcock	John Barge
Jimmie Baber	Rod Gillespie
Peter Grim	Tracy McAllister

Terms expire January 2024

Glenn Burton	Morley Stevenson
Cathy Morgan	Tristan Williams

Terms expire January 2024

Durene Brown	Charles Roby
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The Vestry typically meets monthly at 6:30 PM in the undercroft, September through June. All St. John's parishioners are welcome to attend.

St. John's Teaching Notes

A Christmas Sermon by St. Leo the Great

Dearly beloved: Unto us is born this day a Saviour. Therefore let us rejoice. Sadness should find no place amongst those who keep the birthday of Life. For as of this day Life came unto us dying creatures, to take away the sting of death, and to bring the bright promise of joy eternal. And no one is excluded from sharing in this our gladness. For all mankind hath one and the same cause thereof, to wit, that our Lord, the Destroyer of sin and death, because he findeth no one free from condemnation, is come to set everyone free. Rejoice, O saint, for thou drawest nearer thy crown! Rejoice, O sinner, for thy Saviour offereth thee pardon! Rejoice, O Jew, for Messiah is come. Rejoice, O Gentile, for God calleth thee to life! Now is come the fullness of the time, fixed by the unsearchable counsel of God, when the Son of God took upon him the nature of man, that he might reconcile it to its Maker. Now is come the time when the devil, the inventor of death, is met and beaten in that very flesh which hath been the field of his victory.

When the Almighty Lord entered this field to battle against the devil, he did so in great and wondrous fairness. For against our cruel enemy he opposed not the armament of the uncreate Majesty, but the lowliness of our flesh. He brought against him the very shape and the very nature of our mortality, with this difference only, that he was without sin. For this birth is not like that of the ordinary run of men. In this birth alone no desire of the flesh had place. In this birth alone no consequence of sin had part. A Virgin of the kingly lineage of David was chosen to be the Mother who grew heavy with the sacred Child. She was chosen to conceive this divine and human offspring in her body because she had conceived him in her soul. And that the unwonted events ordained by the counsel of God might cause her no alarm, she was taught them beforehand when the Angel announced that what was to be wrought in her was of the Holy Ghost, and that to become the Mother of God was not to forego her virgin modesty.

**A DAILY PRAYER FOR
St. John's Church**

Bless, O Lord, this parish, and grant that Thy Name may be worshipped here in truth and purity, to all generations. Give Thy grace and wisdom to our Clergy, that they may exercise holy discipline, and be themselves patterns of holiness, simplicity, and self-denial. Bless all who worship here; take from us all pride, vanity and self-conceit, and give to us true humility and self-abasement. Enlighten our minds, subdue our wills, purify our hearts, and so penetrate us with Thy Spirit, and fill us with Thy love that we may go forth animated with earnest zeal for Thy glory; and may Thy living Word so dwell within our hearts that we may speak with that resistless energy of love which shall melt the hearts of sinners to the love of Thee. Open, O Lord, the hearts and hands of Thy people, that we may be ready to give and glad to distribute to our necessities. Bless the founders and benefactors of this parish, and recompense them with the riches of Thine everlasting kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Cycle of Prayer for Malawi, week of December 25:

Diocese Northern Malawi: The Rt Revd Fanuel Emmanuel Magangani
Sisters of Saint Mary
St. Luke's Hospital

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Christmas Day: The Anglican Church of Melanesia; The Diocese of Oklahoma—The Episcopal Church; The Diocese of Okrika—The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Oleh—The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Olo—The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; The Diocese of Olympia—The Episcopal Church; The Diocese of Omu-Aran—The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

Lincoln Park—St. Michael & All Angels
Brooklyn—All Saints'
Ypsilanti—Chaplaincy at Eastern Michigan

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

December 25

Phyllis Lewis
Darren Savage

December 26

Elisabeth Johnson

December 31

Steve Langmuir



This Week's ANNIVERSARIES

**Have you given us
your Anniversary
Date?**



OUR PRAYER LIST

Healing and Comfort: Alice B., Sarah B., Al F., Bonnie B., Brianna W., Cathy M., Christopher B., Daria R., Doug R., Durene B., Elaine D., Gail W., Gordon D., George W., Helene W., Jessica W., Jimmy J., Jim Z., Johnny C., Julie B., Lawrence A., MJ B., Michael Z., Michael P., Paul M., Rexina M., Robert H., Sabrina H., Sandra Z., Sandy D., Virginia B.

If you would like to add a name to the Prayer List, please call the Church Office at 313-962-7358.

Serving in the United Nations: Sharon G. Lowery

Police Officers and Firefighters: For parishioner officers – Federal Service: Pat Walter; Holly Springs, NC: Michael Walter; and Fairfax County, VA: Stephen A. Shillingford.

Those Serving in the Military: Especially for Alan Mullin, Andrew Timpner, Brian Shea, Damon Dalby, Elijah Buxo, Ian Bass, Jonathan Walter, Kurt Helfrich, Nick Myers, Nick Norville, Steven Campbell, Joseph J. Sharpe, Ted Decker, Brian Finocchiaro, Catherine Finocchiaro, and Zachary Livingston

Diocese and the National Episcopal Church: That there may be a greater understanding of the Authority of Holy Scripture, and our submission to that Authority.

Year's Mind of Death:

Harry Merrill	December 25, 1961
Marie Schell	December 25, 1977
Julia Fisher	December 26, 1960
Dolores Selena Loveless	December 26, 1969
Samuel B. Cummins	December 27, 1952
Ruth M. Loomis	December 27, 2002
Emma Minton	December 28, 1969
Ernest Robert Simon	December 28, 2012
Helen Elizabeth Hodgson	December 29, 1953
Marjorie Elsea	December 29, 1997
Irving Gordan Hawkins	December 30, 1958
Irene L. Hind	December 30, 1974
Hugh A. Tuttle	December 31, 1968
Marcella E. McGowan	December 31, 1978