



St. John's Church

# The Parish Chronicle

December 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

## 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

Grace Jackson

## Ministry & Staff

### Office Manager

Elizabeth Savage

### Senior Warden

Charles Roby

### Junior Warden

Pat Walter

### Treasurer

Jared Moody

### Acolyte Master

Morley Stevenson

### Altar Guild Directress

Sarah Babcock

### Armitage Men's Club

Pat Walter

### Daughters of the King

Lena Nealley

### Episcopal Church Women

Debbie Swain

### Lectors Guild

Brian Campbell

### Outreach Committee Chair

Debbie Swain and Chris Golembiewski

### Usher Captains

John Barge & Peter Grim



## Rector's Rambling

Two days! Can you feel the excitement? The anticipation? So close and yet the 4th Sunday of Advent cannot seem further away from Christmas Eve and Day as well! We have a short week before the Christmas celebration begins.

This week we have a great opportunity to finish our last spiritual preparations for the coming Feast of the Nativity, as well as Jesus' return (it could happen beforehand). If you would like to make a private confession this week, please call the office to make an appointment, or plan on being at a weekday Mass and we can do so before or after Mass.

The other thing we can do these days between Advent and Christmas is to spend time inviting people to join us for

worship at St. John's. Christmas is a time when people are looking for a place to come to church. Your invitation could be how God will reach the heart of someone searching! Invite them to a Christmas service and even offer them a ride if they are unsure of driving downtown. The fear of the unfamiliar can be overcome by your hospitality. It is a great chance to introduce people to St. John's and to have them join us for worship and fellowship in the Lord.

Today after the 10 AM Service we have to finish Greening the Church for Christmas. Yesterday we got much of the nave (seating area of the church) decorated and today we have the choir and altar areas to complete. After a bowl of soup in the undercroft come on back upstairs to pitch in. Many hands make for light work. And thank you to those who helped yesterday.



## 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 22—DECEMBER 29

<b>Sunday</b> 12/22 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT	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 Coffee Hour  Evening Prayer
<b>Monday</b> 12/23	7:00 A 12:15 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion AA Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 12/24 Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord	7:00 A 4:00 P 8:30 P 9:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Pageant Service Carol Prelude Solemn Mass with Choir
<b>Wednesday</b> 12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY	7:00 A 11:00 A 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Low Mass with Carols AA Meeting
<b>Thursday</b> 12/26 ST. STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR, 35 A.D.	7:00 A 10:30 A 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion AA Meeting
<b>Friday</b> 12/27 ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST	7:00 A 11:00 A 12:15 P	Morning Meditation (online) AA Meeting Holy Communion 166th Anniversary of Parish Founding
<b>Saturday</b> 12/28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
<b>Sunday</b> 12/29 FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	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 Coffee Hour  Evening Prayer

*NOTE: The Chronicle went to the printer last Tuesday. Calendar updates or changes can be found at [www.StJohnsDetroit.org](http://www.StJohnsDetroit.org)*

**Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**O** LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

**THE DAILY OFFICE READINGS (The Lectionary)\*****Morning Prayer**

SUNDAY	80	Isa. 40:1–11 Luke 3:1–17
Monday	116	Isa. 33:13 Luke 1:5–25
Christmas Eve	50	Baruch 4:36–5:9 Luke 1:67
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

**Evening Prayer**

SUNDAY	33	Isa. 40:12–18, 21–31 1 Thess. 3:7
Monday	104	Isa. 35 Rev. 10:7
Christmas Eve	85	Zech. 2:10 Matt. 1:18
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

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

**WISH LIST — PLEASE HELP US WITH THESE ITEMS**

*New items to come soon.*

**Announcements****SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER**

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 –****Daily Morning Meditation**

Streamed daily @ 7:00 AM

**Holy Communion**

Monday @ 12:15 PM  
Tuesday 4:00 PM and 8:30/9:00 PM  
Wednesday 11:00 PM

**Evening Prayer**

Resumes next week @ 4 PM

*Services can be attended in person, or by livestream*

**Christian Education** – Sunday School today at 10 AM in the Undercroft. Dante class resumes in January and the Alpha Course as well.

**Donations Accepted** - we are accepting donations of individually wrapped packages of snacks (e.g., granola bars, cookies, nuts, etc.). While you’re shopping, please consider buying some, and bringing them in for the Church to use for Coffee Hour.

**Parking Note** - being a member of St. John’s does not mean that we can park in our side lot for free for Lions 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.

**Giving** - If you are away on Sunday, you can mail your offering envelope to St. John’s, or contribute online with the our QR code through the GiveButter giving platform.



## LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULES

### December 22

#### Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz  
S – C. Stevenson

#### Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Sarah Babcock  
Sarah Jean Babcock  
Helene Waters

#### Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell  
Morley Stevenson  
Chelsea Hutchins

#### Ushers 10:00 AM:

John Barge  
Peter Grim  
Bryan Monaco  
William Porter  
Libby Schudel  
George Waters  
Terry Donnelly  
Darren Savage  
Elijah Buxo

#### Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour

### December 29

#### Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz  
S – C. Stevenson

#### Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Sarah Babcock  
Elizabeth Savage

#### Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell  
Morley Stevenson  
Brian Campbell  
Elizabeth Savage  
Pam Beeghly

#### Ushers 10:00 AM:

John Barge  
Peter Grim  
Bryan Monaco  
William Porter  
Libby Schudel  
George Waters  
Terry Donnelly  
Darren Savage  
Elijah Buxo

#### Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour

### The Vestry and Officers of St. John's

Charles Roby, Senior Warden  
Pat Walter, Junior Warden  
Durene Brown, Secretary  
Jared Moody, Treasurer

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*Terms expire January 2025*

Durene Brown                      Charles Roby

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*Terms expire January 2026*

Elizabeth Butler                      David Gawrych  
Bryan Monaco

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*Terms expire January 2027*

Jared Moody                      Patrick Walters  
Helene Waters

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 Ministry Notes***

As the year draws near to a close, it might be helpful to look at some of the many ministries in which we are involved, both directly and indirectly, here at St. John's.

### ***Ministries at St. John's***

- Acolytes, Altar Guild, Choir, Organ Scholar, Lectors, and Ushers to aid in Sunday worship.
- Coffee Hour Hosts, St. Catherine's Guild ECW, Daughters of the King, Order of St. Luke Healing Ministry, and Armitage Men's Club for service and projects.
- Sunday School and Alpha Course for Christian Education.
- Weekday Communion and Daily Office Prayers.
- Home and hospital visitation of the sick and shut-in.

### ***Ministries to our neighbors nearby***

- Outreach Committee Grants to nearby ministries.
- St. Catherine's Guild projects to support Crossroads Social Service Ministry, and to support the social service work of the Georgia Street Cooperative. The Warm Fuzzy Tree to collect hats, scarves, and mittens.
- Daughters of the King projects to support Pregnancy Aid Crisis Pregnancy center.
- Weekly canned food collection to "feed God's sheep" through Crossroads Ministry.
- Parish support of Mariner's Inn Rehab. Center.
- Hosting of meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous, four days a week, for over 50 years.
- Hosting of Alternative College Spring Breaks.
- The Door Ministry – opening the building during the week for prayer and reflection, and responding to needs as able.

### ***Ministries to our neighbors further away***

- St. Michael's Conference for Youth, Midwest.
- Support of Nashotah House Theological Seminary.
- Support of the ministries of Bishop Jackson Biggers in Malawi.



**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 22:**

Diocese of Northern Malawi: The Rt Revd Fanuel Emmanuel Magangani; Sisters of Saint Mary; Diocese of Mangochi; Diocese of Mzuzu; St. Peter's Hospital

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

*Fourth Sunday in Advent: The Church of the Province of Uganda; The Diocese of Kubwa—The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion); The Diocese of Kuching—Church of the Province of South East Asia; The Diocese of Kumasi—The Church of the Province of West Africa; The Diocese of Kumi—The Church of the Province of Uganda; The Diocese of Kurunegala—The Church of Ceylon (Extra Provincial); The Diocese of Kushtia—The Church of Bangladesh*

**Episcopal Diocese of Michigan**

Lincoln Park—St. Michael & All Angels  
La Romana, DR—Church of the Incarnation

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**



**December 22**  
John Barge

**December 25**  
Darren Savage

**December 26**  
Elisabeth Johnson

**This Week's ANNIVERSARIES**

**December 24**  
Alan & Lena Nealley, Sr.

**December 27**  
Brian & Natalie Campbell



**OUR PRAYER LIST**

**Healing and Comfort:** Alice B., Sarah B., Al F., Bonnie B., Brianna W., Christopher B., Daria R., Durene B., Endolyn C., Elaine D., Eleanore S., 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.

*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; Orange County, 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, Zachary Livingston, & John R. Nicholson, III, graduate of West Point

**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:**

Jeanette Weldon	December 22, 1952
Suzanna Karpinski	December 22, 1954
Ethel Ramsey	December 23, 1966
Martha Langley	December 23, 1968
Ervin H. Buehler	December 24, 1997
Franklin C. Baker	December 24, 2010
Marie Schell	December 25, 1957
Maryann Crogher Balduf	December 25, 2022
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