



St. John's Church

The Parish Chronicle

February 16, 2025

THE SUNDAY CALLED SEPTUAGESIMA, OR
THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Directory

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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

Peter Grim

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

As human beings constrained to time and space, we are "calendar" people. In other words, we are people who keep time. The Church Year helps us to do that. We started with Advent and then had Christmastide and Epiphanytide, and now have yet another new season, known as the Gesimas.

This is the Pre-Lenten season, which you can read more about in the teaching notes on page 4. We are using three weeks to ease into the full-on onslaught of Lent.

At first thought I would say that I don't want to be scheduled, but in reality I crave having a set framework to work within. The looseness of scheduling of pastoral needs and emergencies is guided by the firm scheduling of the Daily Offices and Daily Holy Communion Service. Having the regularity of the later helps to form and inform the former. I do that part of my vocation better because I am regular about prayer.

And even though life can be hectic, and unexpected surprises can throw one for a loop (like our flooded basement),

the regularity of the calendar keeps me focused on the big picture, and well as all the little things contained in it.

The Pre-Lent, Lent, and Passiontide seasons are a perfect example of this. We know that Easter is April 20 this year. Ash Wednesday is March 5. We have from now until Ash Wednesday to prepare for Lent, the first five weeks of Lent to be thorough about our devotion and self-evaluation, and then it gets ramped up another notch when we get into Passiontide (the two weeks before Easter). And then we have the uber-intensity of the Sacrum Triduum (three Holy Days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) to take us to the finish line!

In the coming weeks the liturgy will reflect these different stages: purple vestments, disappearance at different stages of the "alleluias", the Glory be to God on High, choir and server surplices and cottas, and flowers on the altar. Eventually the "Gloria be to the Father..." goes away and we are faced with the starkness of those last days. Be ready to follow along as we head toward the Resurrection!



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 FEBRUARY 16—FEBRUARY 23

Sunday 2/16 SEPTUAGESIMA	7:00 A 7:30 A 8:00 A 10:00 A 11:15 A	Morning Meditation (online) Morning Prayer (chapel) Holy Communion (chapel) Choral Holy Communion Coffee Hour
	5:30 P	Evening Prayer
Monday 2/17	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Tuesday 2/18 St. Simeon, Bishop and Martyr, c. 80 A.D.	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer
Wednesday 2/19	7:00 A 12:15 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion AA Meeting
Thursday 2/20	7:00 A 10:30 A 4:00 P 5:00 P 7:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting Alpha Course
Friday 2/21	7:00 A 11:00 A	Morning Meditation (online) AA Meeting
Saturday 2/22 St. Joseph of Arimathea c. 40 A.D.	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
Sunday 2/23 SEXAGESIMA	7:00 A 7:30 A 8:00 A 10:00 A 11:15 A	Morning Meditation (online) Morning Prayer (chapel) Holy Communion (chapel) Choral Holy Communion Coffee Hour
	5:30 P	Evening Prayer

NOTE: The Chronicle went to the printer last Tuesday. Calendar updates or changes can be found at www.StJohnsDetroit.org

Collect for the Sunday called Septuagesima

O LORD, we beseech thee favourably to hear the prayers of thy people; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen

THE DAILY OFFICE READINGS (The Lectionary)*

Morning Prayer

SUNDAY	20, 121	Joshua 1:1–9 2 Tim. 2:1–13
Monday	123, 127	Gen. 1:1–19 Mark 6:7–13
Tuesday	135	Gen. 1:20–2:3 Mark 6:14–29
Wednesday	137:1–6 & 140	Gen. 2:4–9, 16–25 Mark 6:30–44
Thursday	141	Gen. 3 Mark 6:45
Friday	143	Gen. 4:1–16 Mark 7:1–13
Saturday	149	Gen. 6:5–8, 13–22 Mark 7:14–23

Evening Prayer

SUNDAY	144	1 Macc. 2:49–64 1 Tim. 6:11–19
Monday	126, 128, 131	Amos 7:1–8 & 8:1–3 Gal. 1:1–10
Tuesday	129, 130	Amos 1:1–5, 13–2:3 Gal. 1:11
Wednesday	132	Amos 2:6 Gal. 2:1–10
Thursday	139	Amos 3 Gal. 2:11
Friday	142, 146	Amos 4:4 Gal. 3:1–9
Saturday	148, 150	Amos 5:1–13 Gal. 3:10–18

* 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, Tuesday, Wednesday @ 12:15 PM

Thursday @ 10:30 AM

Evening Prayer

Monday through Thursday @ 4 PM

Services can be attended in person, or by livestream

Christian Education – Sunday School is at 10 AM today, and the Dante class after the 10 AM Service. The last session of this term’s Alpha Course is Thursday at 6:30 PM

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.

AED and Narcan - In case of medical emergency the Automated External Defibrillator and Narcan are located in the hallway between the Church and the Chapel, using the doorway in front to the left of the choir and altar area to get to it.

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

February 16

Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz
S – C. Stevenson

Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Sarah Babcock
Nancy Donnelly
Suzanne Porter
Melody Huffer

Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell
Morley Stevenson
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

February 23

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
Cindy Edwards

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

Peter Grim, Senior Warden
Pat Walter, Junior Warden
Cynthia Edwards, Secretary
Jared Moody, Treasurer

Terms expire January 2026

Elizabeth Butler David Gawrych
Bryan Monaco

Terms expire January 2026

Jared Moody Pat Walter
Helene Waters

Terms expire January 2027

Cynthia Edwards Peter Grim
Morley Stevenson

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

The -gesima Sundays

*Septuagesima – seventy days
To Easter's primrose tide of praise;
The Gesimas – Septua, Sexa, Quinc
Mean Lent is near, which makes you think.
Septuagesima – when we're told
To "run the race", to "keep our hold",
Eschew injustice, not give in,
And practise stern self-discipline;
A somewhat unattractive time
Which hardly lends itself to rhyme.*
by John Betjeman:

Today we begin the “-gesima” Sundays and we should be looking forward 18 days to the coming of Lent.

The -gesimas are an approximation of the days to Easter. Quinquagesima is exactly 50 days. Sexagesima and Septuagesima approximately 60 and 70. Quadragesima is now commonly known as the First Sunday in Lent, marking the official 40 day penitential season.

One way to prepare for the coming of Lent is to think about what disciplines and devotions we are considering taking on. What are we “giving up” for Lent? This is not necessarily something that is bad for us (those should perhaps be given up anyway), but even something enjoyable and good that we use as both an offering and an opportunity remind ourselves that we have control (by His grace) over our bodily impulses. As I write, I am in the midst of weaning myself back off coffee. Coffee in itself is not bad in moderation; but the last few years I have given it up as an offering and a reminder that I don't need it. Of course there are other things in my life that I will be giving up as well.

In addition to giving something up, I am piling up some books I would like to read as fodder for meditation, and am planning a few projects I want to do as both a discipline and devotion. Both of these types of things not only build up discipline and devotion now, but can be things that carry over beyond Lent.

If you haven't given Lent a thought yet, start thinking and praying now about what disciplines and devotions might be helpful in addition to the Church's prescribed fasts (days of abstinence from flesh meat – Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all other Fridays in Lent) and devotions (weekly attendance at Church).

~ Fr. Kelly

**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 February 16:

Diocese of Lake Malawi—The Rt Revd Francis Kaulanda; Leonard Kamungu Theological College; Diocese of Karonga; St. Ann's Hospital

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Septuagesima: The Church of Bangladesh; The Diocese of Lweru—The Anglican Church of Tanzania; Missionary Area of Macau—Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui; The Diocese of Machakos—The Anglican Church of Kenya; The Diocese of Maciene—Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola; The Diocese of Madhya Kerala—The Church of South India (United); The Diocese of Madi and West Nile—The Church of the Province of Uganda

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

Ann Arbor—St. Aidan's
Michigan Center—St. Aidan's
San Pedro, DR—St. Stephen's

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



**Have you given us
your Birthdate?**

This Week's ANNIVERSARIES

**Have you given us
your Anniversary?**



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:

Anna Geraldine Pettingill	February 16, 1952
Ida C. Pretzer	February 16, 1953
Margaret Ellen McNab	February 17, 1979
Laruelle E. Creighton	February 17, 1992
E. Dean Alexander	February 18, 1963
Dennis Chestnut	February 18, 1986
Virginia Merdendahl	February 19, 1955
Lucille Brassfield	February 19, 2023
Labert D. Conkey	February 20, 1962
Dr. William H. Price	February 20, 1966
James McLellan	February 21, 1977
Lenore Casing	February 21, 1997
Gordon C. Ripley	February 22, 1969
David Alves	February 22, 1976