



## St. John's Church

# The Parish Chronicle

February 9, 2025

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

### 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

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

icle.

On Thursday we celebrate Absalom Jones, the first black American ordained priest in the Episcopal Church. Following is a biography of him, cobbled together from [www.satucket.com](http://www.satucket.com) and 1997 Lesser Feasts and Fasts.

In 1786 the membership of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia included both blacks and whites. However, the white members met that year and decided that thereafter black members should sit only in the balcony. Two black Sunday worshippers, Absalom Jones (1746-1818) and Richard Allen (1760-1831), whose enthusiasm for the Methodist Church had brought many blacks into the congregation, learned of the decision only when, on the following Sunday, ushers tapped them on the shoulder during the opening prayers, and demanded that they move to the balcony without waiting for the end of the prayer. They walked out, followed by the other black members.

Absalom Jones conferred with William White, Episcopal Bishop of Philadelphia, who agreed to accept the group as an Episcopal parish. Jones would serve as lay reader, and, after a period of study, would be ordained a deacon (1795) and a priest (1802) and serve as rector. Allen wanted the group to remain Methodist, and in 1793 he left to form a Methodist congregation. In 1816 he left the Methodists to form a new denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME).

This week we have two Feast Days of note. Information about St. Valentine can be found on page 5 of today's Chronicle.

Jones was an earnest preacher. He denounced slavery, and warned the oppressors to "clean their hands of slaves." To him, God was the Father who always acted on "behalf of the oppressed and distressed." But it was his constant visiting and mild manner that made him beloved by his own flock and by the community. St. Thomas Church grew to over 500 members during its first year. . . Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the Church as God's instrument.

St. Thomas African Episcopal Church continues to this day as a congregation in Philadelphia, their website being [www.aecst.org](http://www.aecst.org)

Today at 4 PM Christ Church in Detroit is hosting the diocesan Absalom Jones celebration and all are invited.





## 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 9—FEBRUARY 16

<b>Sunday</b> 2/9 THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY	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> 2/10 St. Scholastica, Virgin, 543 A.D.	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 2/11 St. Cyril, Pope of Alexandria, C.D. 444 A.D.	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer
<b>Wednesday</b> 2/12	7:00 A 12:15 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion AA Meeting
<b>Thursday</b> 2/13 St. Kentigern, Bishop d. 603 A.D.	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
<b>Friday</b> 2/14 St. Valentine, c. 270 A.D.	7:00 A 11:00 A	Morning Meditation (online) AA Meeting
<b>Saturday</b> 2/15	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
<b>Sunday</b> 2/16 SEPTUAGESIMA	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 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**O**LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy Church and household continually in thy true religion; that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace may evermore be defended by thy mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

SUNDAY	15, 85	Ruth 1:1–17 Col. 3:5–11
Monday	79	Prov. 26:17 1 Pet. 1:1–12
Tuesday	82, 101	Prov. 27:1–6, 10–12 1 Pet. 1:13
Wednesday	86	Prov. 28:1–13 1 Pet. 2:1–10
Thursday	89:1–19	Prov. 29:11–25 1 Pet. 2:11–17
Friday	92	Prov. 30:4–9 1 Pet. 2:18
Saturday	97	Prov. 31:10 1 Pet. 3:1–12

**Evening Prayer**

SUNDAY	21, 22:23	Joel 3:9–17 Matt. 13:36–52
Monday	81	Isa. 14:3–11 1 Thess. 1
Tuesday	90	Isa. 14:12–20 1 Thess. 2:1–13
Wednesday	91	Isa. 22:1–5, 12–14 1 Thess. 2:17–3:13
Thursday	94	Isa. 24:1–6, 10–16a 1 Thess. 4:1–12
Friday	102	Isa. 31 1 Thess. 4:13
Saturday	84, 122	Isa. 47:1, 7–15

\* 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 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.

**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 9

#### Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz  
S – C. Stevenson

#### Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Sarah Babcock  
Denise Grim

#### Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell  
Morley Stevenson  
Brian Campbell  
Suzanne Nicholson  
Elizabeth Savage

#### 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 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

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

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

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#### *Terms expire January 2026*

Elizabeth Butler                      David Gawrych  
Bryan Monaco

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#### *Terms expire January 2026*

Jared Moody                              Pat Walter  
Helene Waters

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#### *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

### St. Valentine

*On Friday the world will celebrate "Valentine's Day" to celebrate love and marriage. This year I will have the privilege to join together two parishioners in Holy Matrimony on this special day. But of course the roots of this holiday are religious.*

~ Fr. Kelly

Saint Valentine (in Latin, Valentinus) is a widely recognized third-century Roman saint commemorated on February 14 and associated since the High Middle Ages with a tradition of courtly love. Nothing is reliably known of St. Valentine except his name and the fact that he died on February 14 on Via Flaminia in the north of Rome. It is uncertain whether St. Valentine is to be identified as one saint or two saints of the same name. Several differing martyrologies have been added to later hagiographies that are unreliable. For these reasons this liturgical commemoration was not kept in the Catholic calendar of saints for universal liturgical veneration as revised in 1969. But the "Martyr Valentinus who died on the 14th of February on the Via Flaminia close to the Milvian bridge in Rome" still remains in the list of officially recognized saints for local veneration. Saint Valentine's Church in Rome, built in 1960 for the needs of the Olympic Village, continues as a modern, well-visited parish church.



Today, Saint Valentine's Day, also known as the Feast of Saint Valentine, is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, Saint Valentine the Presbyter is celebrated on July 6 and Hieromartyr Saint Valentine (Bishop of Interamna, Terni in Italy) is celebrated on July 30. Notwithstanding, because of the relative obscurity of this western saint in the East, members of the Greek Orthodox Church named Valentinus (male) or Valentina (female) may celebrate their name day on the Western ecclesiastical calendar date of February 14.

~ Wikipedia: Saint Valentine

**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 9:**

Primate of the Province of Central Africa—The Most Rev'd Albert Chama; The Mothers Union of Malawi; Diocese of Chikwawa; Diocese of Dedza

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

*The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany: The Anglican Church of Australia; The Diocese of Lucknow—The Church of North India (United); The Diocese of Lui—Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; The Diocese of Lusaka—The Church of the Province of Central Africa; The Lusitanian Church (Extra Provincial); The Diocese of Luwero—The Church of Uganda; The Diocese of Norther Luzon—The Episcopal Church in the Phillippines*

**Episcopal Diocese of Michigan**

Livonia—St. Andrew's  
Boca Chica, DR—Grace Church

**BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**



**February 11**

Chris Golembiewski

**February 12**

Terry Valerio

**February 14**

Bryan Monaco

**This Week's ANNIVERSARIES**

**February 11**

Terry & Peggy Valerio



**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:**

Allie Roop	February 9, 1980
Jeannette Williams	February 9, 1986
Raymond B. Eggen	February 10, 1973
George Blair, III	February 10, 2009
Grace Helen Hudson	February 11, 1973
Alice Charles Carey	February 11, 1961
Fannie Jirovec	February 12, 1979
Floyd Buehler +	February 12, 1998
Kenneth Harold Groth	February 13, 1995
Ralph M. Burton	February 13, 2015
Rose Emily Jackson	February 14, 1991
Gary Keith Daughtery	February 14, 2024
Dr. Julius Taylor	February 15, 1981
Carolyn P. Jamieson	February 15, 1962