

Directory

2326 Woodward Avenue
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www.StJohnsDetroit.org

Rector

Fr. Steven J. Kelly, SSC

Assisting Priest Emeritus

Canon Michael J. Bedford

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

Dr. Huw R. Lewis, FRCO

Edwards Organ Scholar

Ms. Chanmi Kim

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

Sunday School

Peter Grim and Shay Willson

Usher Captains

John Barge & Peter Grim

St. John's Church

The Eagle

Fall 2026



Rector's Rambling

Fall is well underway at St. John's! We are busy with opportunities for worship, learning, and fellowship.

Sunday School is underway, as are our new Adult Education classes. Both these occur at 9:15 AM between our worship services. Peter Grim, Shay Wilson and Leo Wilson have been teaching the Sunday School, and Fr. Kelly is doing an Adult Series called Comparative Denominations. That series continues until the Sunday before Thanksgiving and you are most welcome to jump in at any week you can participate.

The Outreach Committee has been dedicating special monthly collections for our community partners. Thank you to those who donated bedding for Beds for Kids in July, School Supplies in August for Georgia Street Community Collective, and Laundry and Cleaning Supplies for Corner Shower and Laundry in September. This month we have a food drive to benefitting Crossroads. November will be our Annual Coat and Blanket drive and December our Gift Giving and Warm Fuzzy Tree. I am so grateful for the generosity of the people of St. John's.

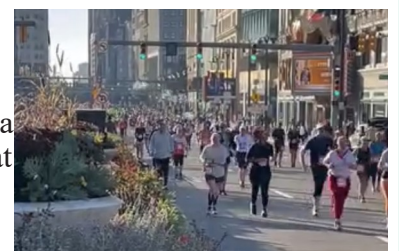
November 2 brings us our All Souls Requiem Masses at Elmwood Cemetery at 10 AM and the Chapel at St. John's at 12:15pm. If you have names of loved ones you would like remembered at the altar on that day please submit them to officemanager@stjohnsdetroit.org

Also in November we have our Fall In-gathering in support of the Bishop Biggers Secondary School in Northern Malawi, an Evening at The Players (theatre), and our Thanksgiving Day festivities for the parade! Plan on joining us that morning for breakfast and parade watching.

In this newsletter is information about these events and also information on a big renovation project in the final planning stages. In 1936 St. John's was moved 60 feet east for the widening of Woodward Avenue. At that time Detroit also upgraded its electrical system to alternating current from direct current, and St. John's was rewired at that time. Most of the wiring in the church and chapel are from that project with cloth covered wires and old fuses instead of breakers. The office building and undercroft have been updated in subsequent renovations, and now it is time to update the Church and Chapel. See Peter Grim's article on the next page.

Finally, please note that our **Homecoming Sunday is October 18th** which is also the **Detroit Marathon Sunday**. Yes, you can get to St. John's that day, but it is only via the Madison exit off I-375, and then going around Ford Field and Comerica Park, entering our lot from Witherill.

See inside this publication for a map to that effect.



THE ELECTRICAL PROJECT 2027

As you may have heard, the Vestry of St. Johns has been preparing for an extensive renovation of our electrical system. The existing lighting and electrical distribution network were installed when the church was moved in the 1930s and after, utilizing technology and materials that due to age are no longer reliable and present concerns about safety. Installed piece by piece over many years, it is also a patchwork of systems, with scattered controls that should be consolidated in a few key locations. The electrical system renovation project will correct these shortcomings, not only improving our



lighting and power distribution, but putting in place a system that will better accommodate future improvements. We will see not only better lighting levels, but lighting that will enhance the beauty of St. John's by making use of technologies that did not exist in the past and by directing light in new ways to reveal features and details that are currently hidden or obscured.

We are working with an engineering and design firm to finalize the updated electrical and lighting design. This should be completed this month. Next, we will send the design package out to at least three capable contractors to obtain competitive bids. Tentatively, work will begin immediately following the first of the year.

This is an extensive and costly improvement that will require an extended period of time to complete. A better idea of the total duration will become clear during the bidding process as the project is discussed with the competing contractors. The first phase will focus on the main church while the second phase will focus on the chapel. Services will be held in the chapel while work proceeds in the church, and shift to the church for the chapel phase. There will be no interruption of worship services while the work is being done.

In the coming months, we will provide progress reports, along with a high-level timeline for the congregation to review. Initial estimates for this effort are in the \$800k to \$900k range. The Vestry is preparing a fund-raising campaign and will be sharing more details in the near future. We look forward to your support as we insure St. John's presence for another 100 years!

Contact me, **Senior Warden Peter Grim**, for more information!

WEEKLY AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	7:30 A	Morning Prayer (chapel)
	8:00 A	Holy Communion (chapel)
	9:15 A	Sunday School/Adult Ed
	10:00 A	Choral Holy Communion
	11:15 A	Coffee Hour
	5:30 P	Evening Prayer
Monday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
Thursday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	10:30 A	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
Friday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	11:00 A	AA Meeting
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
Saturday	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)

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

Christian Education 9:15 AM on Sunday

Sunday School for Children and Adult Education

**After the 8 AM Service or before the 10AM
in the Undercroft**

No Adult Ed 10/25

Sunday, October 18

Detroit Free Press Marathon

YES, YOU CAN GET TO ST. JOHN'S FOR WORSHIP

I-94 to I-75 South to I-375, stay in left lane for Madison Exit (left side) and then make a right at the end of the ramp, go around Ford Field and street becomes Montcalm next to St. John's



Woodward Ave and Fisher Freeway Service Drive are closed

Homecoming Sunday

October 18

Catered Lunch after the 10 AM Service



Invite Friends, Neighbors and Family to join us! See Marathon Sunday instructions above

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 @ 4:00 PM

Christian Education – Sunday School and Adult Education at 9:15.

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 an Automated External Defibrillator and Narcan are located in the hallway between the Church and the Chapel, and also one in the Undercroft.

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.

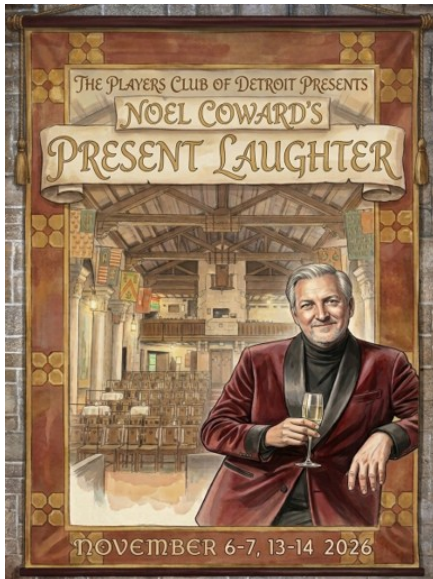
There may be a tax advantage to **donating stocks, bonds, securities, and property** to St. John's. Speak to your advisor and contact the Treasurer for information on how to donate



Saturday Meetings
October 17
November 14

Advent Tea
December 5

**St. John's night at
the Theatre**
Friday, November 13
7:30 PM



Tickets \$50

See Fr. Kelly, Morley Stevenson, or Andrew Kelly
for more information about the show.

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 2027

Jared Moody Pat Walter
Helene Waters

Terms expire January 2028

Cynthia Edwards Peter Grim
Morley Stevenson

Terms expire January 2029

Durene Brown Charles Roby
Renee Peck

The Vestry typically meets monthly at 6:30 PM in the
undercroft, September through June.
Next meetings tentatively 10/20, 11/18, 12/16.
Parishioners are welcome to attend.

St. John's Teaching Note
Church Polity

Recently a question was asked about church polity. Here is a basic summary for St. John's.

St. John's was founded in 1858 as a parish of the Diocese of Michigan. They and our national church have Canons that govern operations, and they meet in Convention every year at the diocesan level, and nationally every three years. Legislation is passed at both levels by a bi-cameral house model based loosely on our US constitution. Nationally there is a House of Bishops and a House of Deputies which is made up of clergy and lay members of each diocese. At the Diocesan level the clergy comprise one House, and parish lay delegates the other. In addition to the bishop there is a Standing Committee elected at Convention and governs between conventions.

Here at St. John's we have a Rector who is a priest elected by the vestry and approved by the bishop, and serves according to the canons as the leader of the parish with tenure.

The vestry is the elected board of the parish. Ours has nine members so three rotate off every year and three new ones elected each year. After a three year term you have to be off the vestry for a year before being re-elected for another term. This is quite different from the early years of the parish where vestry members served in some cases for decades, such as founder Henry Porter Baldwin from 1858 to 1892.

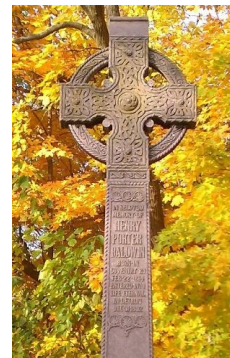
That vestry then elects a senior warden who has charge of the parish in the absence of a rector, a junior warden who is usually head of the property committee, a secretary to record minutes and sign documents, and a treasurer. Those four are unpaid volunteer positions. The vestry then approves the hiring of an outside professional accountant to help with bookkeeping and preparation for reports and audits, which are done by yet another outside firm. The vestry nominates candidates for the vestry and presents a slate to the Annual Parish Meeting in January. If you are interested in serving contact the office for information. The vestry does the business of the parish in accordance with Church Canons and State Corporation laws.

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.

**All Souls Day
November 2**

10:00 AM
Requiem Mass
Historic Elmwood
Cemetery Chapel



12:15 PM
Requiem Mass
St. John's Chapel

Be sure to submit the names of departed loved ones, with your offering, in the All Souls Envelope in the Sunday Order of Service or email list to officemanager@stjohnsdetroit.org

Thanksgiving at St. John's**Wednesday, November 25**

12:15 PM Holy Communion

*Give thanks to God for His giving!***Thursday, November 26**

Pancake Breakfast, Donut and Cocoa sales,
and watching America's Thanksgiving Day
Parade from our parish garden!

*6:30am until Santa
parades past the Church.*

*This is a holiday tradition
at St. John's not to be
missed!*

*Invite your friends and
neighbors to eat with us
and watch the parade!*

**Fall
Ingathering****Sunday, November 8**

*Remember that each time you think of
something you are grateful for, to set aside
an offering to be collected on
November 8th*

*The St. Catherine's Guild of the Episcopal
Church Women will collect the funds in
thanksgiving, and send them to Bishop
Biggers School and its ministry in Malawi,
Central Africa.*