

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

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

Usher Captains

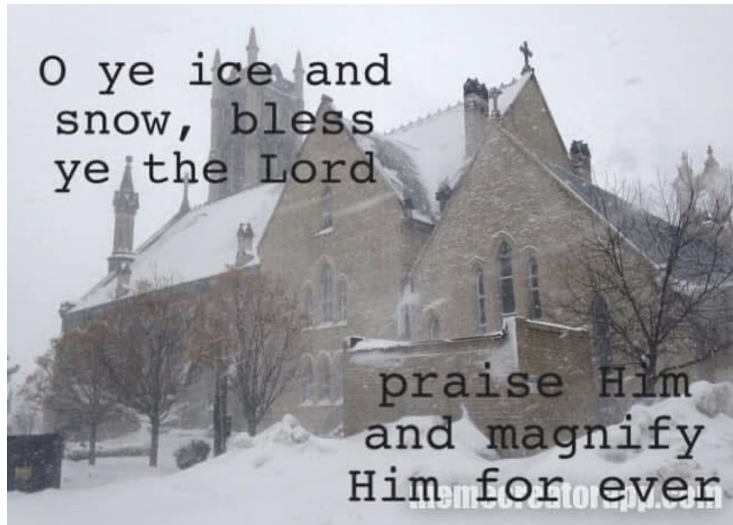
John Barge & Peter Grim

St. John's Church

The Parish Chronicle

February 1, 2026

SEPTUAGESIMA



Rector's Rambling

We are having quite the winter this year, with bitter cold and snow. And worse than just snow, but snow on Saturday and Sunday which has impeded travel for many parishioners. Some years we have a mild winter, but this one is not one of them! Thankfully some have been able attend on snowy days, and by God's grace worship has continued unimpeded.

Last week was one of those snowy Sunday. And although the 8 AM Service was very sparsely attended, about half the regular number of people were able to make it to the 10 AM Service, and attendance at the Annual Parish Meeting following was 2/3 what we anticipated—not a bad turn out for a snow day!

At the Annual Parish Meeting we elected three new members of the Vestry: Durene Brown, Renee Peck, and Charles Roby. The financial reports were reviewed for 2025 and we glanced to the forecast for the coming year, which overall continues to be positive. Thank you to all who were able to attend, and the booklets

containing the financials and reports from the various committees and ministries is available from the parish office.

February has several big events to note. Friday we are heading to see the play at the Detroit Players Theatre. Please be sure to get your reservation into the office today.

On Sunday, February 15th we welcome Bishop Wendell Gibbs to the 10 AM Service to preach and celebrate. We will be commemorating my 25th Anniversary at Rector here at St. John's. A luncheon will follow.

February 17th is Shrove Tuesday. We will be having our Pancake, Paczki and Trivia Night starting at 6 PM. This is a last Feast before we start our Lenten Fast.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18th, which Mass and Ashes at 12:15 and 6 PM, and Evening Prayer with Ashes at 4 PM. If you can't make it downtown that day then get your Ash in a church nearby.

Thanks be to God for a new month.



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

Food may be deposited in the basket at the entrance of the church to aid the neighborhood ministry to the poor through **Crossroads and Georgia Street Community Co-op**.

Dedicated donations for the support of the **Malawi Education Fund** and **Rector's Discretionary Fund** can be put in the collection plate with a note in the memo line or on the envelope.

Collections of school supplies, cleaning supplies, garden tools, Christmas presents, mittens, sweaters, etc. occur throughout the year to support our community.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S FEBRUARY 1—FEBRUARY 8

Sunday 2/1 SEPTUAGESIMA	7:00 A 7:30 A 8:00 A 10:00 A 10:00 A 11:15 A 5:30 P	Morning Meditation (online) Morning Prayer (chapel) Holy Communion (chapel) Sunday School Choral Holy Communion Coffee Hour Evening Prayer
Monday 2/2 PURIFICATION OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Tuesday 2/3 St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, c. 316 A.D.	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Wednesday 2/4 St. Gilbert of Sempringham, Abbot 1189 A.D.	7:00 A 12:15 P 4:00 P 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion Evening Prayer AA Meeting
Thursday 2/5 St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, 304 A.D.	7:00 A 10:30 A	Morning Meditation (online) Holy Communion and Benediction
Friday 2/6 St. Titus, Bishop and Confessor, d. 107 A.D.	7:00 A 11:00 A 5:00 P	Morning Meditation (online) AA Meeting AA Meeting
Saturday 2/7 St. Romuald, Abbot 1027 A.D.	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
Sunday 2/8 SEXAGESIMA	7:00 A 7:30 A 8:00 A 10:00 A 10:00 A 11:15 A 5:30 P	Morning Meditation (online) Morning Prayer (chapel) Holy Communion (chapel) Sunday School 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

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

~~5 new Holy Water Stoops for Church and Chapel~~
~~\$200 each~~

~~Holy Water storage tank with stand~~ — \$630

Thank you to those who donated the items listed

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 Wednesday @ 4:00 PM

Christian Education – Sunday School at 10 AM and Anglican Christianity class after the 10 AM Service.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - If you missed last week's meeting, copies of the booklet from the meeting are available from the parish office.

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.

Parking Note - The lot next to St. John's is leased to Olympia Development, and we have use of it only for our church related events. We do not have the ability to give permission to park there for events at Comerica Park, Little Caesars Arena, Ford Field, or the local theatres.

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



LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULES

February 1

Lay Ministers 8:00 AM:

E – Richard Moritz
S – C. Stevenson

Altar Guild 10:00 AM:

Jane Burton
Elisabeth Johnson
Carolyn Ricca

Lay Ministers 10:00 AM:

Brian Campbell
Morley Stevenson
Chelsea Hutchens

Ushers 10:00 AM:

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

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour

February 8

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
Elizabeth Savage
Brian Campbell
Suzanne Nicholson

Ushers 10:00 AM:

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

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 2027

Jared Moody Pat Walter
Helene Waters

Terms expire January 2028

Cynthia Edwards Peter Grim
Morley Stevenson

Terms expire January 2028

Durene Brown Charles Roby
Renee Peck

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 by Peter Laukhuff

Every year, at some point roughly midway between Christmas and Easter, we find the Sundays in our Book of Common Prayer designated by those big "Gesima" words – Septuagesima, Sexagesima and Quinquagesima.

The "Gesima" Sundays do have reference to a special religious event, but only in a calendar sort of way. What they mean is – going forward from Septuagesima Sunday, the first one – that they mark the Sundays which are seventy, sixty, and fifty days before Easter. Quinquagesima Sunday is exactly fifty days before Easter; all others are only approximations, actually a few days off by the secular calendar.

So, why are these days important? They are important because they remind us that Easter approaches and that the Lenten season of penitence, review of our lives and preparation for the Resurrection, the event that marks the gift of eternal life, are close upon us. The "Gesima" Sundays, in fact, mark a pre-Lenten season, a kind of forward extension of Lent itself. These Sundays, in fact, mark a kind of divide between the joys and thankfulness of Christmas and Epiphany and the introspection of Lent to be followed by the greatest joy of all at Easter.

Beginning with Septuagesima Sunday, we are reminded that the joy of our Lord's birth at Christmas and His being shown forth to the Gentiles at Epiphany is beginning to wind down, to be put behind us, as we contemplate the sorrows of our Lord's coming Passion and Crucifixion and try to prepare ourselves for the greatest gift and miracle of the Resurrection, the conquest of death. It is in this sense of subdued preparation for self-examination during Lent, that the "Gesima" Sundays are traditionally marked in Anglicanism by the omission of the glad phrases and strains of the Gloria in Excelsis.

The Collects, at least for Septuagesima and Sexagesima, are the ancient ones, slightly modified. They are somber Collects, with references to punishment for our sins and petitions for merciful deliverance from adversity.

A dual theme, however, runs through most of the "Gesima" Collects, as well as the Epistles or Gospels appointed. This dual theme is that on one hand there is danger, adversity and repentance for our sins which may be contributed to the adversity. It requires of us self-examination, self-condemnation, penitence and desire for forgiveness and a new start.

But the other theme of the "Gesima" propers is consolation and salvation through God's mercy and loving-kindness. As someone has put it, part of the "Gesima" message is that "it is never too late to be damned (and) that it is never too late to be saved".

~ Edited from the original

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 1:

Diocese of Southern Malawi: The Rt Revd Alinafe Kalembe; Diocese of Upper Shire: The Rt Revd Brighton Vitta Malasa, The Rt Revd Jackson C. Biggers, assisting; Archdiocese of Blantyre; Archdiocese of Lilongwe; St. Luke's Hospital

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Septuagesima: The Church of England; Te Pihopatango o Te Taiawhiti—The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia; The Diocese of Taita-Taveta—The Anglican Church of Kenya; The Diocese of Taiwan—The Episcopal Church; The Diocese of Tamale—The Church of the Province of West Africa; The Diocese of Tanga—The Anglican Church of Tanzania; The Diocese of Central Tanganyika—The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

Pontiac—All Saints'

Carreras, DR—Holy Spirit

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**February 1**

Mary Roby
Rod Gillsepie

February 2

Clayton Jolley
Thomas Trapnell

February 6

Robert R. Hudson

February 7

David Boulton

This Week's ANNIVERSARIES**January 23**

Terrance & Nancy
Donnelly

**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., Harriett M., George W., Helene W., Jessica W., Jim Z., Julie B., Lawrence A., MJ B., Michael Z., Michael P., Paul M., Rexina M., Sabrina H., Sandra Z., Sandy D., Deb 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; 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, Charles Lewis.

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:

Charles Beutow	February 1, 1971
Anna L. Kania	February 1, 1983
Griffin Causey	February 2, 2006
Elsie F. Bowman	February 2, 1006
Delia Warriner	February 3, 1961
Joseph John Kopera	February 3, 1961
Sheilah Jackson	February 4, 2000
Barbara Ann Tischer	February 4, 2013
Carolyn J. Campbell	February 5, 2014
Brenda Fay Nichols	February 5, 2016
Helen Taylor	February 6, 1979
Mark Allen Spicer	February 6, 2014
Charles Phillips	February 7, 1944
Anna Ellis Grunow	February 7, 1953