



#### Directory

2326 Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48201-3431  
Ph: (313) 962-7358  
[www.StJohnsDetroit.org](http://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

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 Nealey

##### 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

January 25, 2026

## THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL



Italian artist, c. 1700, MFA, Budapest



### Rector's Rambling

Today we have a special feast day in the midst of our short Epiphany Season. Today we are celebrating the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle. Certain Holy Days, such as this one, take precedence over the regularly assigned Sunday lessons and observance (such as the 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, which today is otherwise).

Paul is an apostle, but unlike the other apostles commemorated, his feast day is kept on the day of his conversion, rather than the day of his death. A person's day of death is considered one's "heavenly birthday", since it is through earthly death that we pass to eternal life. And in the case of all the apostles, except St. John, their death was by martyrdom – being killed because of their faith in Jesus Christ. St. Paul was also martyred. The church believes that under the general persecution of Nero in 64 and 65, both St. Peter and St. Paul met their deaths for being followers (and promoters) of Jesus Christ. Peter, not being a Roman citizen, was crucified

(tradition says head-down) and St. Paul, being a citizen, was given the quicker execution of being beheaded.

But today the church commemorates St. Paul's conversion to the faith. It is one of those stories that is powerful because he was not just a non-believer in Jesus, he was an active persecutor of those who believed that Jesus Christ is Lord. He consented to St. Stephen's stoning, his executioners laying their jackets at his feet. (*Acts 7:58, 8:1*) His journey to Damascus was to arrest followers of Jesus and bring them to Jerusalem for trial. (*Acts 9:2*). Paul's conversion is unique, but gives us hope that no matter what our, and others', spiritual condition may be, God can intervene!

After today's Service join us downstairs for lunch and for the Annual Parish Meeting. We will go over the financial reports for 2025 and forecast for 2026, elect new members of the Vestry, and receive reports from the various organizations, committees, and ministries of the parish.



## 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 JANUARY 25—FEBRUARY 1

<b>Sunday</b> 1/25 <b>THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL</b>	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	7:30 A	Morning Prayer (chapel)
	8:00 A	Holy Communion (chapel)
	10:00 A	Sunday School
	10:00 A	Choral Holy Communion
	11:15 A	Coffee Hour
	5:30 P	Evening Prayer
<b>Monday</b> 1/26 St Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b> 1/27 St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop, D.C. d. 407	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b> 1/28 St. Thomas Aquinas	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	12:15 P	Holy Communion
	4:00 P	Evening Prayer
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
<b>Thursday</b> 1/29 St. Francis de Sales 1622 A.D.	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	10:30 A	Holy Communion and Benediction
<b>Friday</b> 1/30 Martyrdom of King Charles of England 1649 A.D.	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	11:00 A	AA Meeting
	5:00 P	AA Meeting
<b>Saturday</b> 1/31	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
<b>Sunday</b> 2/1 <b>SEPTUAGESIMA</b>	7:00 A	Morning Meditation (online)
	7:30 A	Morning Prayer (chapel)
	8:00 A	Holy Communion (chapel)
	10:00 A	Sunday School
	10:00 A	Choral Holy Communion
	11:15 A	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](http://www.StJohnsDetroit.org)*

**Collect for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

*A*LMIGHTY and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

SUNDAY	42, 43	Isa. 41:8–10, 17–20 John 4:1–14
Monday	39	Prov. 10:12–14, 18–21 Phil. 1:27–2:11
Tuesday	41	Prov. 10:22–29 Phil. 2:12–18
Wednesday	44	Prov. 11:9–14, 24–30 Phil. 2:19
Thursday	45	Prov. 14:26 Phil. 3:1–16
Friday	51	Prov. 15:16–23, 27–29 Phil. 3:17–4:3
Saturday	55	Prov. 16:25 Phil. 4:4

**Evening Prayer**

SUNDAY	27, 134	Isa. 56:1–8 John 2:13
Monday	37:1–24	Ezek. 27:1–5, 26–36 John 5:1–15
Tuesday	46, 47	Ezek. 33:1–9 John 5:16–29
Wednesday	49	Ezek. 33:10–20 John 5:30
Thursday	50	Ezek. 33:23 John 6:1–14
Friday	54, 57	Ezek. 34:1–10 John 6:15–29
Saturday	29, 99	Ezek. 34:11–16 John 6:30–40

\* 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 and Wednesday @ 4:00 PM

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

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** - TODAY, January 25th, 2026 after the 10 AM Meeting.

**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

## January 25

## **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  
Tom Edwards

**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

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## 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 2027*

*Terms expire January 2028*

Cynthia Edwards  
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*

## Church Governance

Today we have our Annual Parish Meeting. This is the yearly official business meeting of the legal corporation that is St. John's Church. It is the opportunity for the people of St. John's to review the finances of the year past, as well as the budget for the year to come, receive reports of the various ministries and organizations of the parish, and elect the "board" of the corporation, known as the Vestry.

This is all a part of the hierarchical system of Church Governance in the Episcopal Church USA. This system starts at the parish with the vestry, which is elected by the people of the congregation. They elect Wardens (Senior and Junior) and other officers, establish committees (with Vestry and non-Vestry members) as needed, and they serve the “business” interests of the parish for the coming year. The Vestry generally meets nine or 10 times a year, or as is necessary. The Rector was elected by the Vestry, with the consent of the Bishop, and has “tenure”, which means he is not elected for a particular term, but as long as God sees fit.

The parish is a part of a Diocese, which is a geographic grouping of parishes under a Bishop and its corporate board, known as The Standing Committee. There are other boards and organizations at the Diocesan level as well, such as Deaneries (smaller geographic groupings of parishes). The Diocese meets yearly in Convention to review finances and budgets, and mission and ministry objectives. If a new bishop is needed it is the Convention that elects. Every parish has lay representation at Convention, and all clergy have a vote too. There are technically two separate "houses" of the Convention (like our federal and state legislative models), but they usually work and vote together as one body.

Beyond the Diocese is a Province, another geographic grouping of dioceses that meet together for common ministry objectives.

Every three years the Episcopal Church meets for The General Convention. A bi-cameral legislative gathering, the House of Bishops and House of Delegates (lay and ordained) from each diocese work on legislation for budget and mission for the coming three years. Every nine years the House of Bishops also elects a new Presiding Bishop.

~ 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 irresistible 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 January 25:

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

#### Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Conversion of St. Paul: Iglesia de Chile; The Diocese of Sur—Iglesia Anglican de Chile; The Diocese of Del Sureste—La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico; The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon—The Church in Wales; The Diocese of Sydney—The Anglican Church of Australia; The Diocese of Tabora—The Anglican Church of Tanzania; Te Pihopatanga o Te Tai Tokerau—The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

### Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

Dexter—St. James'

Santo Domingo, DR—St. Andrew's

Consuelo, DR

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



January 25

Eric Johnson

January 26

Tristan Williams

January 28

Lance Johnson  
Margaret Kelly

January 31

Suzanne Nicholson

### 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:

May Copper	January 25, 1960
Harry Hobbs	January 25, 1966
Janet Currie	January 26 1972
Octavia Mason	January 26, 1978
Marcemus Pierce	January 27, 1939
August Loch	January 27 1948
Alice Nellie Trout	January 28, 2001
Mildred Roberta Brown	January 28, 2012
Rose C. Chapman	January 29, 1962
Marjorie Stearns Richardson	January 29, 1964
Minnie Leonard	January 30 1961
Angelo Rosso	January 30, 1965
Ronald Allen Grimwade, Sr.	January 30, 2011
Emma Belle Clay	January 30, 2013