

# SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

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LAFAYETTE SQUARE • WASHINGTON, DC

## THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 25, 2026 | Morning Prayer

*St. John's is a church for people of all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,  
and viewpoints grounded in love. Whoever you are, we welcome you.*

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### WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Whether you are a longtime member or a visitor, we are happy to welcome you this morning. If you would like to learn more about St. John's and our presence in this city, we invite you to visit our website at [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org). We hope that this service, in the midst of this busy city, refreshes and restores you this morning.

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### OPENING SENTENCE

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. —*Isaiah 60:3*

### CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## ANTIPHON

The Lord has shown forth his glory:

Come let us adore him.

## VENITE *Said by all.*

Psalm 95:1-7

Come let us sing to the LORD; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.\*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## ANTIPHON

The Lord has shown forth his glory:

Come let us adore him.

## PSALM 27:1, 5-13 *Said responsively by half verse.*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? \*

the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; \*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the LORD \*

and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; \*  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Even now he lifts up my head \*  
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; \*  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; \*  
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*  
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, \*  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; \*  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## CANTICLE 16 *Said by all.* The Song of Zechariah—*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
 Free to worship him without fear, \*  
 holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
 To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
 by the forgiveness of their sins.  
 In the tender compassion of our God \*  
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE SECOND READING

Matthew 4:12-23

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**CANTICLE 21** *Said by all.*

You are God—*Te Deum laudamus*

4th-century Latin hymn

You are God: we praise you;  
 You are the Lord: we acclaim you;  
 You are the eternal Father:  
 All creation worships you.  
 To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
 Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
    Father, of majesty unbounded,  
    your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
    and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
    Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
    bought with the price of your own blood,  
    and bring us with your saints  
    to glory everlasting.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
    as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

#### **THE APOSTLES' CREED** *Said by all.*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
    creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
    He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    and born of the Virgin Mary.  
    He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
    was crucified, died, and was buried.  
    He descended to the dead.  
    On the third day he rose again.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
    and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
    He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
    the holy catholic Church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins,  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Let us pray.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *Said by all.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## THE SUFFRAGES *Said responsively by half verse.*

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Day by day we bless you;  
We praise your Name for ever.

Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
For we put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope;  
And we shall never hope in vain.

## THE COLLECTS

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Intercessor* Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

*People* **That we all may be one.**

*Intercessor* Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*People* **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

*Intercessor* We pray for the communities of St. John's and our companion relationships with the Anglican Church of Southern Africa\* and the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for St. Paul's, Baden, and St. Mary's Chapel, Aquasco; St. Paul's, Rock Creek; St. Paul's, K Street; and St. Paul's, Waldorf. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; and all bishops, priests, and deacons.

*People* **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

*Intercessor* We pray for Donald, our President; for the leaders of Congress and the nations, for the Supreme Court, and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*People* **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

*Intercessor* Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*People* **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

*Intercessor* Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*People* **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

*Intercessor* Give to the departed eternal rest;

*People* **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*Intercessor* We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*People* **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Intercessor* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence.*

*Priest* O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## HOMILY

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *Said by all.*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

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*If you wish to make an offering to St. John's, you may do so using this QR code or at [bit.ly/sjc-offering](https://bit.ly/sjc-offering).*

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## Announcements for the Week of January 25

### TODAY AT ST. JOHN'S

*Preaching this morning: The Rev. Rob Fisher*

10 a.m. Vestry Candidates Presentation  
(Online only)

11 a.m. Morning Prayer (Online only)

### IMPORTANT ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE: ABSENTEE VOTING

We hope to see everyone for Annual Meeting next Sunday at 11:30 a.m., either in person or online. Among other important business, we will be electing vestry members and wardens (see next column). **If you are unable to attend this year's meeting, please vote early!** Complete a paper ballot and place it in the box in the reception area, or email your selected candidates to Charley Griffin via the About: Leadership tab of our website. Absentee votes must be received no later than Sunday, February 1, at 10:30 a.m.

*There is no option to vote electronically during the meeting.*

## ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF VESTRY

**Sunday, February 1, at 11:30 a.m.**  
Worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m. that day  
Reception following Annual Meeting

Please plan to join us in person or online for this year's annual meeting, at which we will elect wardens and vestry members. Bios are posted in the building and linked below. Candidates speak at 10 a.m. today.

### Candidates for Wardens (uncontested)

Alfred Thesmar, Senior Warden  
Julia Koster, Junior Warden



### Candidates for Vestry (3 to be elected)

TOP ROW (*left to right*): Jordan Baugh, Elizabeth Field, Apiyo Oloya. BOTTOM ROW (*left to right*): Brian Schoeneman, John Schutz, Annie Simonds.



### Candidate to fill an unexpired term

Kate Benner (uncontested)



### Candidate Bios



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## SERVICE SCHEDULE

*January 26 through February 1*

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**Monday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Tuesday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Wednesday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Thursday**—12:10 p.m.—Eucharist

**Friday**—12:10 p.m.—Noonday Prayer

**Sunday**—The Rev. Will Morris, Preacher

8 a.m. Eucharist with Sermon

10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Sermon

*Children's Chapel offered during the sermon at 10:30 a.m.*

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

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**Monday, January 26**

6:15 p.m. Lawyers' AA (Togo West Parlor)

**Tuesday, January 27**

1 p.m. Staff Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

6 p.m. Vestry Meeting (Togo West Parlor)

6:30 p.m. Being With (Parish House Third Floor)

**Wednesday, January 28**

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong (see below)

**Thursday, January 29**

4:30 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal

7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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**CHORAL EVENSONG**

**Wednesday, January 28, at 5:30 p.m.**

Steeped in the beauty of the Anglican tradition, Evensong meets us at the even point between the active day and the restful night. Evensong is sung by the St. John's Choir

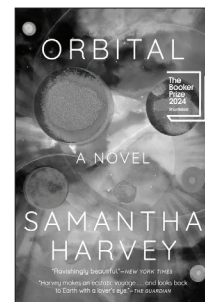
and Choristers on the last Wednesday of most months from September through May, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and followed by a reception in Togo West Parlor. Parking validation is available in the Colonial parking garage at 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW; obtain a validation ticket from an usher before or after the service. The service will also be available via livestream on our website.

*Shortly after evensong, members of St. John's Pride will gather for drinks at Opaline at the Sofitel Hotel, just a three-minute walk from St. John's. Join us if you can, or contact our leaders via [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org) to learn more about this group.*

### ST. JOHN'S BOOK GROUP

**Thursday, February 5, at 7 p.m.**

Please join us via Zoom to discuss *Orbital: A Novel* by Samantha Harvey. This slender work of fiction depicts the lives of six men and women traveling through space over the course of one day. These astronauts and cosmonauts—from America, Russia, Italy, Britain, and Japan—have left their lives behind to travel at a speed of over seventeen thousand miles an hour as the earth reels below. The book group typically meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. For information and the link, contact us via the directory at [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).



### LATROBE FELLOWSHIP

**Saturday, February 7, at 2:50 p.m.**

The Latrobe Young Adult Fellowship will visit the Bishop Payne Library at Virginia Theological Seminary on Saturday, February 7. While on campus, we will see the African American Episcopal Historical Collection (AAEHC) and learn about famous Episcopalians such as Pauli Murray and Thurgood Marshall. After the tour, we will gather at the campus chapel for prayer, followed by food and fellowship. The group will carpool to the seminary from the King Street–Old Town metro station and should be at the library no later than 2:50 p.m. for the start of the tour. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

*The Latrobe Fellowship is an active and engaged group of adults, primarily in their 20s and 30s. We typically gather at St. John's at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month for a short worship service followed by an activity.*

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

**Saturday, February 7, 5–7:30 p.m.**

Kids ages 6 months through 5th grade are invited to play, watch a movie, and eat pizza while parents and caregivers enjoy an evening out. RSVP by Monday, February 2, to [bit.ly/sjc-pno](https://bit.ly/sjc-pno). Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akes-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab of our website.

### **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18**

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Ashes  
12 noon Choral Holy Eucharist and Ashes  
7 p.m. Choral Holy Eucharist and Ashes

### **Ashes to Go (in front of the Church on 16th Street)**

8:30–9:30 a.m. | 4–6:30 p.m.

## GRACE'S TABLE

**Third Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Upcoming dates: February 21 and March 21**

Grace's Table is an outreach partnership between St. John's and Grace Episcopal Church in Georgetown. Every third Saturday of the month, a group from St. John's prepares and serves a meal at Grace to folks who are unhoused or at risk of losing their housing. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other St. John's parishioners and to spread God's loving kindness in our community. Contact leader Elizabeth Field using the Connect: Ministry Directory tab of our website with questions or to volunteer.

## LENT 101 FOR ALL AGES

**Sunday, February 22, at 10 a.m.**

This interactive offering will help young children and their caregivers understand what the Lenten season is all about. Why do people give things up and take things on? What does it mean to repent? How can families strive to observe a holy Lent? Come explore these questions and more! This offering is geared toward families with infants, toddlers, and elementary aged children, though all are welcome.

## WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

**Friday, March 6, through Sunday, March 8**

**Registration closes Monday, February 23**

This year's Sisters at St. John's annual women's retreat, entitled "Listening with the Ears of Our Hearts," will be led by the Dr. Terri Lynn Simpson, Manager of the Center for Prayer and Pilgrimage at Washington National Cathedral, and will be held at the A. Felix DuPont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Please complete your online registration at [bit.ly/sjc-retreat-2026-register](https://bit.ly/sjc-retreat-2026-register) and submit your payment to secure your spot. The cost (\$425) includes housing and meals. For those in need of financial assistance, scholarships are available; contact the Rev. Rob Fisher with your request. Questions? Reach out to leader Emily Lucio via the online Ministry Directory. Full information, including details about the venue and payment, can be found at [bit.ly/sjc-listening-hearts-2026](https://bit.ly/sjc-listening-hearts-2026).

## SPEAKER SERIES

The Speaker Series is held most Sundays from September through May at 10 a.m. in the Togo West Parlor on the first floor of the Parish House. An audio recording will be available on our website the week after each talk.

**January 25: Vestry Candidates Presentation.** Hear from those seeking election to the Vestry, in preparation to cast your vote at Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 1.

**February 1: No Speaker Series—Annual Meeting**

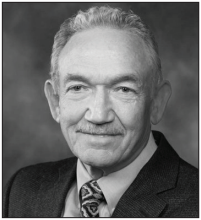
## THE PRESIDENCY OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS



**February 8: Ronald C. White**, best-selling author on Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, will kick off our annual three-part presidential series, this year focusing on John Quincy Adams, our nation's sixth president.

Visit [stjohns-dc.org/connect/newsletters](https://stjohns-dc.org/connect/newsletters) to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter (*The Word*) and other parish email lists.





**February 15: Randall B. Woods**, author, biographer, and Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas, will share insights gained from the writing of his book *John Quincy Adams: A Man for the Whole People*.



**February 22: Jane Hudiburg**, noted Congressional historian, will talk about the post-presidency of John Quincy Adams, who went on to become a highly influential member of Congress and legal advocate.



**March 1: Michael Guy**, historian, will give an update to the parish on our new history project researching St. John's history in light of race and slavery.



**March 8: Richard Grimmitt**, longtime parish historian, will speak about the work of the famed American architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, including his design of St. John's.



**March 15: Matt Dallek**, noted historian and Professor of Political Management at George Washington University, will trace the history of political violence in America up to the present day.



**April 12: Aalok Mehta**, Director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies' Wadhani AI Center, will address the promise, perils, and defining questions of artificial intelligence.



**April 19: Aaron Reichlin-Melnick**, a senior fellow at the American Immigration Council, will bring us up to date on the current state of U.S. immigration policies and practices.



**April 26: Martha Gimbel**, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Budget Lab at Yale University, a non-partisan policy research center, will discuss the state of the U.S. economy.

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## NEWS & NOTICES

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### FEDERAL WORKERS | Giving or receiving support

Many of our parishioners have been affected by layoffs in the federal government. If you are seeking help—or if you have help to offer—please complete our survey at [bit.ly/sjc-federal-survey](https://bit.ly/sjc-federal-survey) with the details of what you need or can provide. You can also reach out to Jordan Baugh, our point person for this ministry, via the directory on our website.

### HEARING AID RECYCLING DRIVE

#### Place donations in the box near the reception desk

As you may be aware, hearing aids are extremely expensive. One study conducted by the National Institutes of Health determined that hearing aids were unaffordable for three-fourths of Americans with functional hearing loss. And the evidence is clear that hearing affects mental acuity as we age. For his Eagle Scout project, Cooper Thesmar is organizing the collection of hearing aid devices that are no longer needed, which will be cleaned, restored or refurbished, and given to those in need. All brands, models, and ages are welcome, and donation receipts can be provided on request.

### SECURITY MEASURES AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's identity as a congregation is shaped by our urban location in the nation's capital. We seek to welcome all to our services and activities with dignity, while ensuring the safety and well-being of those who worship in our facilities. In coordination with the Vestry and our Usher Guild, we have hired security personnel for Sundays and special services to maintain a low-key, proactive presence and to be prepared to respond quickly and respectfully to any needs that may arise. We are also enhancing training for staff and ushers to support how we welcome all while remaining a safe and secure. We are choosing to take these steps prayerfully and proactively, and we will continue to assess what best serves our church's needs as we go forward.

### PARISH LUNCH SCHEDULE AND HOSTS

#### Most Sundays after the 11 a.m. service

The Sunday lunch tradition relies on volunteers to prepare and serve the meal—which is why we encourage individuals, families, groups, or ministries to host at least once per program year. Hosts may be reimbursed for expenses or

receive a tax receipt. Not sure what's involved? Want to claim a future date? Contact Parish Lunch coordinator Holly Sukenik at [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory).

- February 1 Annual Meeting and Reception  
February 8 Refugee Committee  
February 15 Mardi Gras—Will Yale, Craig &  
Barbara Burkhardt, Karen Zachary,  
and Miller Winecoff  
February 22 Bishop Walker School
- March 1**  
March 8 Marion Blakey and Friends  
March 15 St. John's Book Group  
**March 22**  
March 29 *No Lunch: Palm Sunday*

## FOR THOSE SEEKING TO BE BAPTIZED

If you are interested in baptism for yourself or for a child, please contact Lisa Koehler via the About: Leadership tab on our website. Please note that the parents or grandparents of children being baptized must be active, pledging members of St. John's. Adults interested in baptism must also attend an Adult Inquirers' Class, offered twice a year, and be active, pledging participants in the life of the parish. Upcoming dates for baptism and required pre-baptismal classes with the clergy at St. John's include:

**Sunday, February 15, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, February 14, at 10 a.m.*

**Sunday, April 12, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, April 11, at 10 a.m.*

**Sunday, May 24, at 9 a.m.**

*Class: Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m.*

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## STEWARDSHIP

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### PLEASE PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

*As of Tuesday, January 20, we had received 258 pledges, totaling commitments of \$1,069,885 for 2026.*

Your 2026 pledge is a commitment of financial support to St. John's for the upcoming year. It can be a one-time annual payment, or it can be paid weekly, monthly, or on the schedule of your choosing. Pledges enable us to plan for the work we will undertake in the mission and ministry

of St. John's in 2026. You can make your pledge online on our website ([stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge](http://stjohns-dc.org/give/pledge)) or by returning a pledge card either by mail to the church office or by placing it in the offering plate on Sunday. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish!

*Pledge envelopes are available for pickup at the reception desk.*

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## FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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### NURSERY HOURS

**Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Infants and children are welcome at all worship services. Nursery care is also available most Sundays for infants and children up to age three. The nursery meets in the Godly Play Classroom #2 on the second floor of the Parish House.

### CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

**Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May**

Children in pre-K through fifth grade may participate in Church School on the second floor of the Parish House. For information, contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

### YOUTH GROUP

**Sundays, 10–10:50 a.m., from September through May**

Most Sundays from September through May, middle and high school youth are invited to the second floor of the Parish House for an exploration of life and faith with their peers. Questions? Contact the Rev. Eric Bailey via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

### CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

**Sundays during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m. worship**

Most Sundays, kids from birth through grade 5 are invited to participate in a special liturgy just for them during the sermon at 9 and 11 a.m. services. Children gather by the pulpit during the gradual hymn and process to the Parish House for a song, homily, and prayer time, returning to the sanctuary at the Peace. Parents may accompany their children and are encouraged to do so for those younger than three. Children are also welcome to stay and worship in the main sanctuary. Questions? Contact the Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

## THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY | September through May

Youth in 6th grade and above are welcome to participate during worship services, serving as torch bearers or crucifers and helping set the altar for communion. Contact Vincent Scauzzo via [stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory](http://stjohns-dc.org/connect/directory) for details.

## CHORISTER PROGRAM | September through May

We offer a choir for children and youth with unchanged (treble) voices. Through a custom-made curriculum, singers receive training in sight reading, vocal production, music theory, liturgy, and leadership, and become part of a vibrant community of music makers. To learn more or express interest, contact Brent Erstad via the About: Leadership tab on our website.

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## REMINDERS

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### ONLINE OFFERINGS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS

To make a monetary offering toward your pledge or a specific fund, scan the QR code at right, or visit our website, then select the desired destination using the “Fund” drop-down menu.



### ADULT BIBLE STUDY | Most Sundays at 10 a.m.

This group gathers most Sunday mornings, using a hybrid approach, with some joining via Zoom and others in person. Conversations explore the connections with the Sunday lectionary lessons and sermons. We are currently studying the first chapters of Matthew, and the book of Genesis. For information, notes, and the Zoom link, contact Jack Reiffer via the Ministry Directory at [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org).

### MAKE A PLEDGE TO ST. JOHN'S

A pledge is a commitment of financial support payable over the course of a year that enables us to plan the work that we undertake in mission and ministry. You can indicate a pledge commitment using this QR code or by visiting the Give tab on our website.



### LISTEN AGAIN TO SUNDAY SERMONS

To listen to past sermons or speaker series, visit our website, scan this QR code or search for “St. John's Church, Lafayette Square” in the Podcast app on your device.



## JOIN A MINISTRY GROUP

Explore our many ministry groups at [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org), and contact the leaders via our online Ministry Directory for details or to sign up.

## FLOWER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Flowers in the church and Parish House are made possible by gifts and are often dedicated to the memory of a loved one or to mark a birth or birthday, wedding, anniversary, graduation, or other special event. To make a dedication, pick up a flower card at the entrance to the church and return it either to the offering plate or to Sharlyne “Charley” Griffin in the Parish Office.

## LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

The weekly 11 a.m. Sunday service is broadcast on our website and available for replay, as are evensongs and occasional other special services and events.

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## PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE

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Praying for those in need is an important part of our life together. Contact the Pastoral Care team via the Connect: Ministry Directory tab at [stjohns-dc.org](http://stjohns-dc.org) to add yourself, family, or friends to our prayer list. Names of friends and family who are not members of the congregation are followed by the name of the parishioner making the request.

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**Our prayers are requested for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:**

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK, RECOVERING, OR GRIEVING

**From our parish:** Cay Buser, Pat Czerwonky, and Mary Wilson.

**Friends and family of our parish:** Conor Barry (Sarah Wood), Robert Bliss (Katherine Bliss and Mark Dennis), Gisela Block (Sigi Block), Chad (Wendy Fibison), Jim DeBello (Grace Barrett), Walt Eccard (Margaret Depue), Ed Eder (Joanne and Powell Hutton), Julie Ellis (Preston Cherouny), Laurie Feldon (Eleanor and Peter Odom), Blair Fiore (Debby Hailey), Peggy Fisher (Debby Hailey), Bob and Heather Gilbert (Andrea Winchell), Chantay Griffin (Charley Griffin and Gee Gee Bryant), Linda Young Gsell (Rick Young), Morgan Hickenlooper (Livvy More), Doug Holy (Joanne Hutton), Jack (Marta Cook)

and Cal Trepagnier), Latithia and Charles Jones (GeeGee Bryant), Olivia Kehoe (Kat Kehoe), Elizabeth Lee (Clayton Crawford), William Markiewicz (Matthew Taylor), Jim Martella (Livy More), Tammy McCleaf (Matthew Taylor), Kathleen McTighe (Sara Josey), Nell Montgomery (Brandon Montgomery), Teri Nelson (Lisa Koehler), Ann Petrosky (Johnathan Miller), Scott (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Connor Smith (Patrick and Cameron Smith), Pam Snyder (Sarah Agnew), Nancy Stephenson (Ann and John Gardner), Ashley M. Smith (Marta Cook and Cal Trepagnier), Mackenzie Toland (Wendy J. Fibison), Caleb Williams (Alfred Thesmar), Darrel Williams (Caleb and James Hays-Reilly), Edward Leland Williams II (Virginia Bader), Bess Williamson (Wendy Fibison), Andrew Woods (Johnathan Miller), Linda Woolley (Blount and Charlotte Stewart), and Judith York (Caroline Fisher).

#### **THOSE WHO ARE IN ASSISTED LIVING**

**From our parish:** Milton Chamberlain, Janet Helgert, Marcella Odom, and Becky Schergens.

**Friends and family of our parish:** David Brown (Lisa Koehler), Bob Chrystal, Sr. (Chris Jones), Veronica Jones

(Chris Jones), Lori LaPoint (Brent Erstad), Yvonne Reiffer (Jack Reiffer), and Carl Wright (Frank and Nancy Klotz).

#### **THOSE WHO ARE IN HOSPICE CARE**

**Friends and family of our parish:** Wilma Daubs (Kay Gilley).

#### **THOSE WHO HAVE DIED**

**From our parish:** Dolph Hatfield, January 16.

#### **THOSE IN OUR PARISH CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY**

Coleman Bird, Paul Bledsoe, Joelle Copeland, Jennifer Egsgaard, Brent Erstad, Hermann Helgert, Vaughan Johnston, Justin Kline, Andrew Noonan, Chris Northrup, Susan Roehrich, Elizabeth Sadqi, Michael Waltz, and Catherine Zeller.

#### **THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES**

**Friends and family of our parish:** Janie Abernethy (Elizabeth Lewis and David Abernethy), Philip L. Faris (Caroline and Steve Faris), and Charles Lewis, Jr. (Charles Lewis, Sr.).

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*Contact Pastoral Care at Connect: Ministry Directory on our website to add, remove, or change a status on the prayer list.*

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## LIST OF 2026 PLEDGERS

**On behalf of the rector, wardens, vestry, and all who share in the grace of God  
through the worship, ministries, programs, and outreach of St. John's Church,  
we thank the following for their pledges for the year 2026:**

*(As of January 20, 2026)*

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Anonymous (12)  
David Abernethy & Elizabeth Lewis  
Alison Adkins  
Kingsley Afemikhe  
Jeff & Sarah Agnew  
Sarah & Amanda Akes-Cardwell  
Tony Anikeeff & Tung-lin Wu  
Gale Arnold  
Douglas & Margo Arnold  
Ashley Atwater  
Elizabeth Bacon  
Eric Bailey  
Paul Barkett  
Jordan & Angelle Baugh  
Robert Beizer  
Murray J. Belman  
Kathleen Benner  
William & Martha Birdseye  
Diane Bitsberger  
Marion Blakey & Bill Dooley  
Paul Bledsoe & Celia Boddington  
Matthew Bode & Laurie Adams  
Jeff Bozman  
Krista & Larry Bradley  
Sydney Brooks  
Autumn Brown  
Craig & Barbara Burkhardt  
Meghan & Douglas Burt  
Rick Busch  
Carolyn Buser  
Susan Cardwell  
Mark Cardwell & Paul Ramos  
Andrea Charters  
Virginia Chew  
Carlye Christianson & Pascal Joly  
Andrew Clarke & Chip Sherrill  
Gwineth Ann Clarkson  
Ann Compton Hughes  
Brian & Kevin Cordova-Brookey  
Margaret J. Craft  
Joseph Creech  
Nicole & Stephen Crochet  
Patricia Czerwonky  
James Czerwonky  
Garry & Patricia Dalby  
Betsy Danello

William E. Davis  
Justin Dean  
Mark Dennis & Katherine Bliss  
Clayton & Margaret Depue  
John Derrick  
Anita & George Diliberto  
Russell Doggett  
Deb Dornemann  
Joan & Jim Doty  
Laura Doucet  
Mike & Beth DuMond  
Diana Duke Duncan  
James Eastwood  
Janet Edmond  
Kaye Edwards  
Lauren Edwards  
Elissa Edwards & Jeremy Sheeler  
Rob & Anna Ehrich  
Martha Ellison  
Clark Ervin & Carolyn Harris  
Le & Casey Evans  
Allison Herron Eydt  
Caroline & Steve Faris  
Wendy J. Fibison  
Hyman Field  
Elizabeth Field  
Rob Fisher & Sarah Wood  
Art & Louise Fisher  
Alex Frye  
Deborah & Jay Fuller  
Ellie Fullerton  
Dr. Linda Gaines  
Elizabeth Gallalee  
David Gallalee  
John & Ann Gardner  
Chris & Elizabeth Gardner  
Carrie & Jim Garland  
Kay Gilley  
Seth Gilmore  
Donald & Ronnie Goodheart  
Ginny Griggs  
Richard & Jeanne Grimmett  
Stephanie & Greg Guyett  
Sandra Hackworth  
Deborah Hailey  
Peter Hailey

Budd & Susan Jess Hallberg  
Christina Hannah  
Peter & Summer Hardinge  
Robert & Anne Harrington  
Fruzsina Harsanyi  
Diane Hauslein  
Caleb Hays & James Reilly  
Tim & Susan Heil  
E. Whitley Herndon  
Laura & John Herzog  
Robert & Tammi Hoback  
Heather Hopkins  
Pamela Howard  
Powell & Joanne Hutton  
Marlene Ikeda  
John Peters Irelan  
Nancy James  
Cindy Jiang  
Bruce & Georgia Johnson  
Ethan Johnson  
Wande Johnson  
Austin Johnson  
Katie Johnson & Nate Rawlings  
Robyne Johnston  
Felton Johnston  
Gregory Jordan-Detamore  
Bill & Sara Josey  
Bill & Ann Kaye  
Carter & Fran Keithley  
Graham & Robin Keithley  
William T. Kendall  
Tracy Lee Kendall  
Kim Kennedy & Beverly Roberts  
Anne & Loren Kieve  
David Kieve & Kate Bedingfield  
Claire Kim & Jess Unger  
Lisa & James Kirchenbauer  
Anyia Kleymenova  
Frank & Nancy Klotz  
Elizabeth Koehler  
Liz & Jon Kosobucki  
Julia Koster  
Kevin Kozlowski & Lara Kanitra  
Kenny Kraft  
Grant Kraus  
Patricia Leslie



Grace Limoncelli & Philip Kuhn  
James Longley  
John & Emily Lucio  
Jan Lupton  
Chip & RJ Lyerly  
Claire Marshall  
Middleton Martin  
Sherill Mason  
Abbott McCartney & Sigi Block  
Clayton McCleskey  
Saunders & Joan McElroy  
Sara McGanity  
Judson McIntire  
Sylvia McKinley  
Andy McKinnon  
Matthew McMurray & Christine Kennedy  
Timothy & Lucy Meade  
Richard Metzger  
Nathan & Kelly Miller  
Johnathan S. Miller  
Livy More  
John & Catherine Morefield  
Gregory & Elizabeth Morrison  
Rob Mosbacher, Jr.  
Michele & Jim Mullins  
Jack Musso  
Dick & Joy Nathan  
Chris Northrup  
Peter & Eleanor Odom  
Apiyo Oloya  
Lydia & Ralph Olson  
Ucheora & Nkem Onwuamaegbu  
Owen & Felicia Owunwanne  
Matthew L. Paeffgen  
Robert D. Pahnke  
Sharon Park  
Cami Pease & Matt Martone

Eric Peters  
Raymond & Susan Petniunas  
Larry Pettinger  
Natalie Popovic  
Richard Price & Yung Chang  
William Priest  
Philip Priest  
Kelly & Tricia Pulsifer  
K. Scott & Katherine Raab  
Will Rabbe & Brittany Prime  
Carl & Mary Raether  
Allie Raether Ganjian & Ali Ganjian  
Luis J. Ramos-Chacon  
Hwa Cha Redman  
Larry Redway  
Sarah & Avo Reid  
Jack Reiffer  
Harker & Geraldine Rhodes  
Hap & Nora Rigby  
Randall & Nancy Roe  
Steve & Susan Roehrich  
Richard Rogers  
Damion Rose  
Chase Rynd  
Jessica & Alex Sanchez  
KayAnn & Brian Schoeneman  
Sara Schreiber  
John & Zachary Schutz  
Susan & Sandy Sierck  
Will & Annie Simonds  
Jeremy Skog  
Alex Smith  
Patrick & Cameron Smith  
Peter Spaulding  
John Staples & Scott Raspa  
Ken & Susan Starling  
Anne D. Stewart

Toby Stock & Margy Slattery  
Alex Stolar  
Catherine Stolar  
Desirée Davis Stolar  
Hillary & Tim Stuart  
Holly & John Sukenik  
Matthew Taylor  
Riley Temple  
Alfred & Hilary Thesmar  
Marianne Thomas  
Roderick & Becca Todd  
Cal Trepagnier & Marta Cook  
Kyle Trombley & Ryan Bash  
Anthony Turner  
Frances Stevenson Tyler  
Susan Valaskovic  
Barbara & Peter Van Allen  
Pamela & Patrick Venzke  
Ryan Wagner  
Christopher Wall  
Alis Wang & Amy Stulman  
Susan Welch  
Gail Berry West  
Hilary West  
Brainerd H. Whitbeck  
Trey & Amy Whitworth  
Margaret Wiegenstein  
Elena Braithwaite Williams  
Emma Wilson  
Anita Woehler  
William Yale  
Zhijun Yang  
Richard Young  
Karen Zachary  
JoAnn Zuercher & Glenn Reichardt

# WELCOME!

**At St. John's Church, we believe** Christ is calling us to be a renewed church in a changing world. Empowered by the Spirit of God, we respond to Jesus' call as we deepen our bond with Christ through worship, become a community where all are accepted, and work together as laity and clergy to do God's work in the world.

**St. John's was organized in 1815** to serve as a parish church for Episcopalians residing in the neighborhoods in the west end of the District of Columbia. Its cornerstone was laid on September 14, 1815, and it was consecrated on December 27, 1816. Beginning with James Madison, every person who has held the office of President of the United States has attended a service at the church. Several Presidents have been communicants. Thus, St. John's is often referred to as the "Church of the Presidents." Pew 54 is the President's Pew. The architect of the church was Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who assisted in the rebuilding of the U.S. Capitol and the White House after the War of 1812. Twenty-five of the stained glass windows in St. John's were designed and executed by artisans of the noted Lorin firm of Chartres, France.

**If you are visiting**, please fill out the visitor information card found at the end of each pew to enable us to welcome you personally into the life of our parish.

**St. John's website ([www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org))** has up-to-date information about the church including the Sunday service schedule, Speaker Series speakers and topics, and newsworthy events.

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## **Vestry Leadership & Members**

Nora Rigby, *Senior Warden*

Alfred Thesmar, *Junior Warden*

Tony Anikeeff, Brian Cordova-Brookey,  
Kaye Edwards, Casey Evans, Debby Hailey,  
Fruzsina Harsanyi, Julia Koster,  
Ucheora Onwuamaegbu, Jack Reiffer,  
Matthew Taylor, and Jess Unger, *Members*

Anya Kleymenova, *Treasurer*

Allie Raether, *Secretary*

Harker Rhodes, *Parish Counsel*

**Head Usher**—James H. Czerwonky

**Head Greeters**—Eleanor and Peter Odom

## **Heads of Flower Guild**

Pat Dalby and Katherine Kyle

## **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Robert W. Fisher, *Rector*

The Rev. Sarah Akers-Cardwell, *Associate Rector*  
*for Family Ministry and Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Eric Bailey, *Assistant Priest for Parish Life*  
*and New Member Ministry*

The Rev. William Morris, *Assisting Priest*  
*for Engaging Local Communities*

Brent Erstad, *Director of Music and Organist*

Linda Morgan Stowe and John Chappell Stowe,  
*Interim Assistant Organists*

John Stowe, *Chief Operating Officer*

Charley Griffin, *Parish Administrator*

Lisa Koehler, *Program Associate and*  
*Executive Assistant to the Rector*

Javier Obregon, *Sexton*

GeeGee Bryant, David Gamboa, and John Queen,  
*Assistant Sextons*

Anne Stone, *Publications*

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## **ST. JOHN'S MISSION STATEMENT**

St. John's shines as a beacon of God's love through faith, worship, care, and community,  
and offers a place of grace at our historic corner in the nation's capital.

## **Parish House**

1525 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-1005  
(202) 347-8766 ♦ [www.stjohns-dc.org](http://www.stjohns-dc.org)