

Christian Education

Competing with the influence of the secular world, and values that are frequently contrary to scripture, Christian Education helps to lay the foundation for our children to understand the fundamentals of our faith in Jesus Christ, and how He would have us live. There are several educational opportunities open to children:

Sunday School

Meeting from September to May, on Sunday Mornings at 9:05am, the children of the parish gather for their classes in the Undercroft.

Pre-school – ages 2 ½ to 4 ½ years

Primary Class – Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade

Intermediate Class – 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade

Middle School – 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade

High School – attend Adult Education classes

Confirmation Class

Meeting yearly, usually in the late winter and spring, this class prepares children and adults for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Generally, children from 12 years of age and up are encouraged to be confirmed, but occasionally, children with an intellectual/emotional maturity may prepare as young as 10 years of age.

Using Fr. Louis Tarsitano's book *An Outline of an Anglican Life: Lessons in the Faith and Practice of the Anglican Church*, this class helps to clarify the basics of Christian Doctrine and Biblical Faith. Lessons include:

The Church
The Doctrine of God
Sin, Salvation, and Grace
The Dominical Sacraments
The Minor Sacraments
The Holy Scriptures
The Book of Common Prayer
The Polity of the Church
Moral Theology
A Church Miscellany

Worship

Children are a vital and most welcome part of our worshipping community at St. John's. We believe that they belong at the services as members of the Body of Christ. Although there is a nursery available for children under 6, even children at these young ages are encouraged to be a part of the regular services as parents see fit. See our brochure *Worshipping with Children* for more information and helpful aids in having your children participate at the services.

Acolytes

It is a great honor to help up front during the services, and children who are able to sit still long enough are welcome to begin training as acolytes. Starting out 'vesting and processing,' the children are given increasing responsibilities in helping at the altar, such as carrying the torches, cross, collection plates, thurible, and being the server.

Junior Ushers and Altar Guild

Helping with the orderliness of the services at St. John's and care of the Altar.

Children's Chapel

During the 10am Service, the Children gather after the Collect for the Day (about 10 minutes into the service) and go together to the Chapel to read the lessons together and have an age appropriate presentation and sermon on the lessons of the day. They return to the Church to be with their parents for prayers of consecration of the sacrament and to receive Communion as a family

The Youth Group

Middle school and high school students meet weekly at the end of the 10am Service (after receiving Communion) for Youth Group. The youth gather for music, bible proficiency, and good old-fashioned fun and fellowship. Youth group extra-cirrucular activities include outings, game night, lock-ins, outreach and charitable ministries.

Coming soon – *Junior Chapters of the Daughters of the King and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.*

Special Events

There are many special events that occur at St. John's that are geared toward or include the children of the parish. This includes our annual outing to a Detroit Tigers game, and The Christmas Show at the Fox Theatre (both just across the street from the Church).



We also have our Christmas Pageant, All Saints Sunday (where the children dress as Saints), and Youth Appreciation Sunday.

A notable highlight is the Thanksgiving Day Parade, which passes in front of St. John's. We have a family sleep-over at the church the night before, pancakes in the morning, and special seating to watch the parade.

Opportunities for Youth

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St. John's



St. John's Church
50 E. Fisher Freeway
Next to Comerica Park
Detroit, MI 48201

www.stjohnsdetroit.org

*A Traditional Anglican Parish of the
Episcopal Diocese of Michigan*