

## A Brief Timeline History of St. John's Church, Larchmont, N.Y.

Around 1870	Development of Larchmont shore front as a summer community for New Yorkers
1873	Club house built on Horseshoe Harbor to stimulate sales (site of the present Horseshoe Harbor Yacht Club). Mrs. Sibell and Mrs. Towle began holding Sunday school classes there that soon expanded into Sunday services. Ministers of various denominations officiated.
1881	Erection of a wood chapel "for the purpose of holding services under the regulations of the Protestant Episcopal Church" under the auspices of St. Thomas's Church, Mamaroneck
October 31, 1891	Date of incorporation of St. John's Episcopal Church of Larchmont, New York
June 9, 1892	Application for admission into union with the Diocese of New York
November 18, 1893	Charles H. Murray (a principal in the Larchmont Manor Company) purchased a plot of land and The Wardens and Vestrymen purchased a further plot for a new church.
April 1894	Plans submitted by architect, Walter C. Hunting with estimated cost of \$14,875. A mortgage was taken out against the plot with Charles H. Murray as guarantor.
June 19, 1894	Cornerstone laid by the Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter, Bishop of the Diocese of New York
June 2, 1895	The Rev. F. Southgate Hipkins accepted the call to become the first Rector of St. John's Church for six months.
May 19, 1895	<i>New York Times</i> <a href="#">article</a> on three stained glass windows by Charles M. Shean
November 20, 1896	The Rev. Dr. Richard Cobden accepted the call to become the second Rector, on condition that a rectory be provided for his family. Dr. Cobden served 27 years and was a community leader in the village, supporting other churches on their arrival (St. John's being the first in the village).
1897	The Murray Memorial Parish House (the Parish Hall) was given by William Murray and Mrs. Walter S. Neilson in memory of their father, Charles Hamlet Murray.
November 1, 1923	The Rev. Dr. Francis J. H. Coffin accepted the call to become the third Rector.
1927	Parishioner E. F. Albee (owner of 170 theaters and father of Edward Albee the playwright) arranged for the latest "moving pictures" to be shown in St. John's Parish House every Friday night.
	The Vestry votes to make all pews free! (Previously, they had been rented out.)
	Funds raised for an organ
1932 (time of the Great Depression)	Establishment of a Rector's Fund "for the relief of poverty and distress and to make loans to help people through temporary financial embarrassment"
1939	Modernization of the Parish Hall, adding the Chapter Room and the Undercroft, through a bequest from Mrs. Eleanor Proctor Reilly
1943	160 members serving on active duty in World War II
May 1954	The Rev. William R. F. Thomas accepted the call to become the fourth Rector.
1957	The Francis J. H. Coffin Memorial Building erected to house the church offices; it currently also houses the Nursery School and part of the Sunday School.
1958	Mrs. Nancy Coffinberry and Mrs. Jane Marks, first women elected to the Vestry; thereby St. John's became one of the earliest Episcopal churches to elect women
1959	William E. Coykendall provided funds for the Jesse Coykendall Memorial Rectory and Garden to acquire the land for a new rectory in memory of his late wife.
October 1, 1961	The Rev. Kenneth E. Mackenzie accepted the call to become the fifth Rector.

1966	Funds raised in celebration of 75th anniversary used to provide a new Austin organ (installation completed in 1968), renovate the church and for an outreach fund St. John's Nursery School founded
1973	Mrs. Ann Geary elected as Junior Warden, the first female Warden in Westchester County. She became Senior Warden in 1976.
October 21, 1974	The Rector, Wardens and a majority of the Vestry approved a resolution that recorded their support for the ordination of qualified women to the priesthood and episcopate. (The General Convention approved the ordination of women as priests in 1976.) The Vestry also voted financial support for Molly Scherm, a parishioner who had entered Cambridge Divinity School and was ordained at St. John's on December 31, 1978, the 19th woman ordained in the Diocese and one of the earliest in the Episcopal Church.
June 1975	Approval of the first columbarium site
May 1977	The Rev. George Zabriskie II accepted the call to become the sixth Rector, effective September 1, 1977.
February 1988	Mrs. Dorothy Greene ordained at St. John's (the second female parishioner). Currently, she is Priest Associate.
May 1989	Mrs. Judith Krumme ordained at St. John's (the third female parishioner).
April 23, 1989	The Vestry, after much discussion with the Parish, voted to sell the rectory. The current rectory, a smaller building, was erected to the memory of Jesse R. Coykendall and the net proceeds placed in the Coykendall Fund for building maintenance.
September 1993	The Rev. Thomas E. Nicoll accepted the call to become the seventh Rector.
1999-2000	Major renovation of the Parish Hall funded by contributions from parishioners and a significant bequest from Mrs. Isabelle J. Thorne
2012	Major renovation of the worship space funded by contributions from parishioners
January 2015	The Rev. Joseph D. Greene III accepted the call to become the eighth Rector.

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Acknowledgement: All pre-1991 information taken from A. C. Viebranz's *Saint John's Church at One Hundred*