

Singing the World

Upside
Down

with **John Bell**

Concert
Friday, September 27
7:00pm

John Bell from the Iona Community, a Christian ecumenical community in Scotland, invites you to join him for an evening of song where all the boundaries are broken.

It's not just for people who read music.
It's not just for people who think they can sing.
It's not just songs that we know.
It's not even only songs that come from North America or Europe.

It's a fun event to liberate the voices of all God's people in response to the divine command 'Sing a new song to the Lord'.

A free will offering will be taken.

Liberating the Song of God's People

Why does the Church sing? Is it merely tradition or a kind of filler during worship? Is it meant to make people happy? Is there something more fundamental?

Another stumbling block is a performance culture which increasingly persuades people that music is for specialists, and if you are not gifted, you can't do much. Thankfully in the Church we have a divine mandate which presumes that everyone is to sing, despite what our junior or high school teachers may have told us.

In these two workshops John Bell will help liberate our understanding of song and our ability to make good music together. No professional expertise or experience required.

Workshop
Saturday, September 28

9:00am—3:00pm

\$20.00 (Lunch included)

**To register please call St. Blase or
johnbell@stblase.org**



JOHN BELL was born in, resides in, and belongs to Scotland.

He is a liturgical composer who has a deep interest in music from non-European cultures and a passion for song of the Assembly.

With his colleagues, he has produced over 15 collections of songs and octavos, and a wide range of liturgical materials, particularly for use by lay people. He has also authored a number of collections of sermons and meditations.

John manages to survive without the benefit of a wife, car, cell phone, camera, or ipod.

Saint Blase Catholic Church

12151 15 Mile,
Sterling Heights MI, 48312
between Schoenherr & Dodge Park
586-268-2244
www.stblase.org