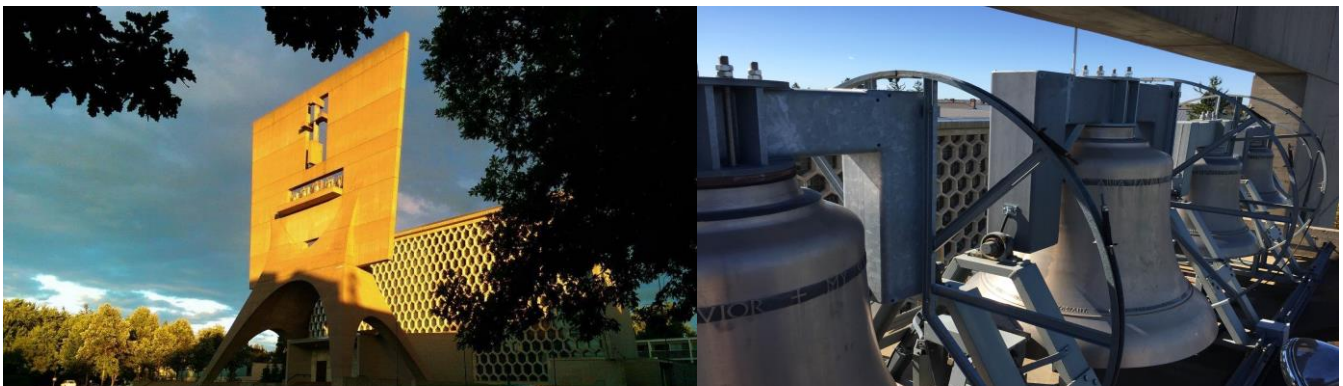




Benedictine Bits

Abbey Church Bell Banner



Saint John's Abbey Church, completed in 1961, is dominated by the iconic bell banner that reaches 112 feet high and 100 feet wide. Greeting visitors like a beacon, the prominent structure symbolizes the importance of the spiritual life on campus and the home of the Benedictine monks of Saint John's Abbey. The five bronze bells are dedicated to the Holy Trinity, Mary the Mother of God, the Guardian Angels, Saint John the Baptist, and Saint Benedict. The lowest toned bell tolls repeatedly to celebrate the life of a monk when he passes, ringing out for each year of life. Although the bells mark the passage of time by sounding off on the quarter hours, they also ring out four times daily to call the monks to prayer and church. Thus, echoing out the rhythm of the day for all who listen.