
The Weekly Parish Light 2023

St. James Episcopal Church · 2 S Augustine St. · Wilmington DE 19804 · 302-994-2029

**From the Rector – The Rev. Sarah Nelson
October 27, 2023**



After a week of sneezing and coughing and generally feeling yucky, I am so looking forward to something fresh and restorative! This Sunday following worship, you are invited to join with others and watch the film **Coco**. Of course, being lunchtime, a light soup lunch will be served. The film is short but powerful and an amazing introduction to the Ofrenda which we will display next Sunday, November 5th.

I have often spoken of the “thin spaces,” both in time and space, where the connection between the living and the dead are close. As we remember and celebrate those whom we have “loved but see no longer,” there is comfort in the scriptural reference to the deep connection that does and will always remain.

Just the other day I was cleaning out my voicemails. I listened to the voicemails and then deleted the old ones. I came upon one message and heard the voice of Doris Gore. My heart and memory were filled with images and remembrances of this dear friend. Even though time has passed, those memories were vivid and rich. For a moment, there was no separation. I was simply filled with gratitude for Doris and her presence in my life!

I hope that you will share pictures, light candles, and celebrate these souls who have graced our lives. It has been said that there are many paths to the top of the mountain. The tradition of the Ofrenda is but another means to enhance our understanding and our gratitude of how we are all interconnected and reliant on one another.

Come, watch **Coco** and learn. Come to celebrate All of the Saints. In the words of the lullaby from Coco:

*Remember me.
Though I have to say goodbye,
Remember me.
Don't let it make you cry.
For even if I'm far away,
I hold you in my heart....*

Faithfully,

Sarah



MUSIC MINISTRY WEEKLY NOTES
from Dr. Michael Larkin, Director of Music Ministry

Dear St. James' Friends,

This past Sunday we heard for the first time our new piano during our worship service. The old Clavanova (keyboard), which certainly has served the parish well for many years, simply needed to be replaced. It will remain in my office so it will continue to serve the parish in a new capacity.

Having a "real" piano is a true blessing for the parish and simply a delight to me to play. In addition to the beauty and expressiveness of its tone, having a real piano opens the door for St. James to now invite area musical ensembles and soloists for either concerts or worship participation who would not have considered joining us with just an electronic keyboard. In your prayers be sure to give thanks for the anonymous donor whose generous gift allowed us to purchase this fine musical instrument. It will beautifully serve the church for many years.

This past Sunday, Lisa Bowe beautifully sang "Children of the Heavenly Father" during the communion distribution. This Sunday, we will welcome back guest tenor Mike Alexander, who will sing for us "The Lord is My Light," also during communion. During the Offertory, the Parish Choir will sing the tuneful "A Grateful Heart" by the American composer Randall Sensmeir.

I hope to see you at church on Sunday morning. Please remember that I always welcome suggestions or ideas regarding our music ministry.

Blessings,

Dr. Michael Larkin

THE 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023

SUNDAY'S LITURGIES – *Old Testament*: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; *Psalms*: 90:1-6, 13-17;
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; *Gospel*: Matthew 22:34-46.



Sunday School is available for all children during the 10:00 am worship service. Sunday School Lessons are planned to match the Lectionary reading for the week. A discussion about the lesson and a craft or activity will follow. The children join their families in church for the Eucharist, or if Miss Tina is singing in the choir, the children will come in during the peace. All children are welcome to attend our class, even if they are not here every week or are just visiting. Please ask a Greeter to direct you to the classroom.

LAY MINISTERS –

Director of Music Ministry:	Dr. Michael Larkin
Worship Leader:	George McDowell
Old Testament Reader:	Mary Hammond
New Testament Reader:	Caroline Luckey
Acolyte:	Tom Reilly
Greeter:	Carol McDowell
Usher:	Andi Bender
Altar Guild:	Andi Bender
Counters:	Tom Reilly & Marti LaRue

COME JOIN US THIS SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP!

The **Hospitality Team** would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join us this **Sunday, October 29th** in the Parish Hall for a screening of the movie *Coco* immediately following worship. We will also be providing a Hot Soup Lunch!



Coco provides us with a strong reminder that despite death, family history can transcend the years and continue to shape our families for generations to come.

Join us this Sunday for worship, a hot soup lunch, and fellowship as we watch **Coco!** Bring a Friend, too! It'll be a fun afternoon!



PARISH PRAYER LIST – Please see the last page of this newsletter and pray for those in need of our prayers for strength, guidance, or healing, especially Patti, Penny, & David Edwards, Carmen Scott, Diane Geist, Lindsey, Kira, Preston, Cindy, Dave. Pray for those who have died.

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Aubree Rutkowski, Crystal Carew, Mark Carew, Jr., Jason Rutkowski, Owen Geist.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the Walls family. Please remember to pray for Nancy during the service on Sunday and keep her in your thoughts during the week.

A Prayer for Families: Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we humbly pray to you to guide and govern us by the Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget you, but remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER – Pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for Episcopal Relief & Development.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, & OPPORTUNITIES



BIBLE BIBLE STUDY – Join us every Wednesday at 10:00am in the Lounge. See the Schedule on page 4 under “Meeting.”



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED ONCE A MONTH!! If you enjoy sharing coffee, a snack, and conversation with friends (old and new) after the 10:00 am service, we hope you will consider being a Host for one Sunday a month. Come early – it takes about 15 minutes to set up and 15-20 minutes to clean up. If you’re interested, please contact Carol Hall or Marti LaRue or see them on Sunday! Pick a month that you (and a friend) would like to be Hosts for Coffee Hour!

FUNDRAISER EVENT



WILLIAMS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION: Check out the ***Bender Twins’ Team fundraising page!*** Click on the link below for more information and to donate to this wonderful Association on behalf of Samantha and Autumn! (If you are unable to open the link below, copy and paste into your URL.)
<https://events.williams-syndrome.org/team/500609>

MEETING

BIBLE STUDY

September 13th – December 27th, 2023

As Christian people we set ourselves on a lifelong course of increasingly learning about our God and God's purpose for our lives. We know many of the stories and we know about God's plan of salvation. Truly, this is a life-long task.

As we "read, mark and inwardly digest" the words of scripture, we know that God continues to speak to us each and every day. Because God continues to reveal God's self, we turn our hearts to be open and respectful to what God is saying. Throughout history, Christians have engaged in the practice of reading and studying scripture. Beginning on Wednesday, September 13th, you are invited to join in a study of scripture with others seeking to know God. Each Wednesday we will gather at 10:00am in the Lounge to consider the words of the Gospel for the coming Sunday. While we will be meeting in person, if you would like to join us by Zoom, please let the office know.

I hope that you will join us.

Sarah

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 2023 SCHEDULE

~~September 13 – Earth Sunday – John 1: 1-14~~
~~September 20 – Sky Sunday – Mark 15:33-39~~
~~September 27 – Mountain Sunday – Mark 16: 14-18~~

~~October 4 – Humanity Sunday – Mark 10: 41-45~~
~~October 11 – Saint Francis – Matthew 11:25-30~~
~~October 18 – Matthew 22:15-22 (cancelled)~~
~~October 25 – Matthew 22:34-46 (cancelled)~~

November 1 – All Saints – Matthew 5: 1-12
November 8 – Matthew 25: 1-13
November 15 – Matthew 25: 14-30
November 22 – **No class**
November 29 – Mark:13:24-37

December 6 – Mark 1:1-8
December 13 – John 1: 6-8, 19-28
December 20 – **No class**
December 27 – **No class**

Then on to 2024!

UPCOMING EVENTS and OBSERVANCES

ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS – We will be celebrating All Saints and All Souls next **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5th**. Last year, Dawn Martinez set up an Ofrenda – a memorial for us to commemorate all our faithfully departed saints (see picture below).

We will be doing this again this year. If you would like to include a picture of your loved ones on the display, **please bring in copies* of your loved ones' pictures (no larger than 4"x6") and give them to Dawn Martinez no later than Saturday morning, November 4th.** (*If you submit an original picture, a copy will be made and your original will be returned to you.)




OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

October 6, 2023 – Issue 1

There are so many invisible ties that bind us one to the other. As we all know, sharing burdens makes them lighter and it is no fun having a party all by yourself. In that light, beginning in the October 6th issue of the **Parish Light**, we began a new section entitled *Our Young People*. In this section, we will highlight some of what our young people are doing.

<p>Nazeef Bush, a freshman at William Penn High School, is trying a new thing. Nazeef is running Cross Country for his school.</p>	<p>Go, Nazeef and Nazir! Saint James is very proud of both of you!</p>	<p>Nazir Washington, also a freshman at William Penn, is playing on the school football team.</p>
---	---	--

 <p>We are so proud of you, Penny!</p>	<p>Our own Penny Geist, a naturalist in the making, was recently interviewed by <u>Delaware Wild Lands</u> for their Fall newsletter. Penny has a keen interest in the natural world and often works with her father on various projects.</p>
---	--

I hope that you will share things about young people you know. This will also give each of us something to talk about when we encounter these members of our church.

To submit details about your Young Person, please email information (and if you desire, a picture) to: martilarue828@gmail.com. Please know that by sending us a picture, you will be authorizing and agreeing to having your youth's picture appear in our newsletter.

MISCELLANEOUS

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CHURCH EXPENSES</u></p> <p>Remember that even when you are away, the church expenses are not. Our pledges are what keeps the church going and the air conditioning running. Your pledge to the ministry of the parish is much appreciated! Thank you!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ALTAR FLOWERS</u></p> <p>If you would like to place flowers on the altar in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, flower forms are available on the table in the church foyer, or you may contact the church office. The cost for flowers is \$30.00. Checks should be made payable to: <u>St. James Church</u>. Please write "Altar Flowers" on the memo line of your check. The check can be placed in the Offering plate or dropped off at the office.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CORAL SPRINGS NURSING HOME</u></p> <p>On the First Sunday of the month during our worship service, Rev. Sarah will consecrate the Host that will be distributed to the residents of Coral Springs Nursing Home on every other Monday each month.</p>
--	--	---

MEMORIAL GARDEN BRICKS

Simply seeing the name of another evokes all sorts of memories, experiences, even emotions. Our Memorial Garden and the brick walkway lovingly planned and laid out by Tom Reilly and Kenny Stafford is a pleasant, peaceful place. It is a place for reflection, gratitude, and celebration. If you would like to honor someone or some occasion, or if you would like to pay tribute to someone who has finished this earthly race, you can purchase a brick, which will be laid in the Garden. There is a card on the table in the Narthex (foyer). If you'd like to purchase a brick, simply fill out the necessary information and give the card to the Greeter or place it in the offering plate. The cost is One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per brick.

CALENDAR – OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 5


BY Tomorrow – Sat., Oct. 28th
Deadline to turn in your **information** to Tina if you want to **Light A Candle** for a loved one on All Saints Day (Nov. 5)

BEFORE OR ON SAT., NOVEMBER 4
Deadline to bring in pictures of your loved ones (copies preferred) no larger than 4”x6” and give them to Dawn.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
 Worship Service (w/ choir) 10:00 am
Screening of the Movie Coco – after our worship service; Soup Lunch with other delicious refreshments provided.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS SERVICE
 Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
 Worship Service (w/ choir) 10:00 am
Ofrenda memorial displayed to commemorate all our faithfully departed loved ones (saints)
 Healing Service in Chapel – after worship

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
 Bible Study (Lounge) 10:00 am

<p align="center"><u>OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 27 BIRTHDAYS</u></p> 	<p><u>OCTOBER</u></p> 28 – Allen Luckey 28 – Amber Price 29 – Aubree Rutkowski 31 – Jason Rutkowski	<p align="center"><u>NOVEMBER</u></p> 1 – Owen Geist 13 – Becky Purdy 15 – Jim Bender 17 – Amber Luckey 17 – Anna Sheesley 18 – Brad Pastore, Jr. 18 – Cavin Luckey	<p><u>NOVEMBER</u> (cont'd)</p> 19 – Art Scotten 19 – Jim Biggs 22 – Lisa Bowe 24 – Kristi Pham 26 – Ike Hammond 26 – Jennifer Erdman 27 – Christopher Luckey 27 – Jen Wills McClellan
--	---	--	--

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK :

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!
If you're happy and you know it,
then you really oughta show it!
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands!



(bet you were singing and clapping along with this one, weren't you?!)

ST. JAMES VESTRY

Meet Your Vestry!

Sr. Warden: George McDowell

Jr. Warden: Tina Geist

Christian Education Chair: Tina Geist

Finance: George McDowell/Tina Geist

Outreach Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Janice Fischbach

Pastoral Care Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Marti LaRue

Property Chairs: Tom Reilly and Andi Bender

Hospitality/Fellowship Chairs: Marti LaRue and Carol Hall

Worship Chairs: John Grim and Dawn Martinez

Recording Secretary: Marti LaRue

Clerk of the Vestry: Janice Fischbach



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

*Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby
Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell*

Prayer in the Midst of Violence

Lord, in our shock and confusion, we come before you
in our grief and despair in the midst of hate,
in our sense of helplessness in the face of violence,
We lean on you.

For the families of those who have been killed, we pray.
For the shooters – *help* us to pray, Lord.
For the communities that have lost members, their anger, grief, fear,
We pray.

For the churches striving to be your light in darkness
beyond comprehension,
We pray.

Lord of all, gather us up – your creatures, your world –
and bring an end to the violence.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Amen.

*Taken from “**Prayer for mass violence**” by Grace Claus
written for faithward*

Prayer for Refugees

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness
and brought them to the promised land.
Guide us now so that, following your Son, we may
walk alongside vulnerable refugee families as
they build a new life in the county of your love and mercy. Amen.

ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST – Please use this Prayer List and include the following people in your daily prayers. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you want to keep someone on the list, add, or remove anyone, please email (stjamesnew@verizon.net) or call the church office (302-994-2029).

Abigail	Cullen Kate Deal	Joshua John	Mike Pierce
Alan	Frank Dean	Sister Julian	John Pumphrey & Family
Alethia	Diana and Pevan	Carolyn Karney & Family	The Pat Purdy Family
Alex	Rose DelliGatti	Juanita Kavanaugh	Reese
Allysa	Henry Diaz	Kathy	Neil Reilly
Amy	John DiOrio	Melvin Kessler	The Rev. Reuben
Andrienne	Ross Donovan	Kiara	Rodriguez
Anna	Deborah Earley	Ritchie Kinlaw	Aaron Richers
Anne	Vern Earley	Kira	The Roche Family
Christina Azwol	Patti Edwards & Family	Sara Kirk	The Family of
Tony Andres	Penny Edwards	Susan Kriznuski	Fr. Ruben Rodriguez
Sage Andrews	Carol Edwards & Family	Marti & Ron LaRue	Roy
Barbara	Ellie Rose	Laura	Emily Ruggieri
Scott Battaglia	Eli	John Lewis	Henry Saffer
Seth Bayless	Eric	Liam	Sally
Jim Bender	Janice Fischbach	Lilly	Daniel Sanchez
Trish Bender Bayless	George Fischbach	Lois	Gabriela Santiago
Jeff Biscoe	Mary Ellen	Allen Luckey	Mike Scarpetti
Bobbie Blevins	Kira Fix	Cindy & Dave Mahoney	Scott
Eileen Borders	John & Harriet Flynn	Mallory	Carmen Scott
Barry Boulden	John	Marie Marcinkowski	Richard Scott
Paula Boulden	Joan Frati	The Martinez Family	The Francis Scott Family
Myrle Bowe	Ginny	Mary Helen	Maria Perdikis
Ronald Boyce	Diane Geist	Jude Matejkovic	Mike PierceSeth
Doris Brown	Fred Geist	Melvin	Linda Sheesley
Charles Brown	Gerike Family: Adam,	Missy	The Slocomb Family
Eleanor Buchanan	Lindsey, & Oliver	Carmen Moore	Earlene Smith
Crystal Bush	Glenn	Shirley Moore	Dan Sommers
Douglas Bush	The Gracie Family	Ann Moses	Kenny Stafford
David Butters	Brittney Griffin	Jay Muckle	Dorothy Stephens
Fran Pearlman-Butters	Scott Gunn	Randy Murray	Steve
Cameryn	Carolyn Halfen	Sara Musselman	Gavin Stiteler
Caroleen	Ike Hammond	Natalie	Paula Szczuka
Carolyn	Lindsey Hammond	Maren Nelson	The Szotkiewicz Family:
KayMaire Castro	Amy & Rick Harra	The Rev. Sarah Nelson	Joanna, Michael,
Cathy	Major Scott M. Harra	Sue Nelson	Hannah, Charles
Wayne Chapman, Jr.	Nancy Hoffman	Nicholas	Thomas
Chris	Travis Hoffman	Noah	Lorayne Titter
Cindy	Holly	Cassandra Norsworthy	Jack Tucker
The Clapp Family	Eileen Hughes	Paula Orty	Shon Tucker
Linda Clark	Peter Huiner and Family	Mark Parton	Tyler
Clint	Kaylee Jackson	Terri Parton	Jack
Bill Cole	Jennifer	Debbie Papa	Betty Ann VanHekle
Brittany Collins	Jenna & John	Madeline Pepe & Children	Preston VanHekle III
Christina Conaway	Jeremy	Pat	Mary Wade
Presiding Bishop	Jim	The Pease Family	Nancy Walls
Michael Curry	Joan	Maria Perdikis	Valerie Warrington
Daisy	Joe		Missy Wieland
Dave			Andy & Linda Wolf

For those serving our country: National Guard: Terron Barnes, Brad Pastore, Christina Pastore;
U.S. Army: Maj. Scott M. Harra. *Give grace, O Lord, to our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer physically and emotionally, that they may be healed. Grant them trust and love that their prayers may be answered and that they may be relieved from their suffering. Amen.*