
The Weekly Parish Light 2024

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

From the Rector – The Rev. Sarah Nelson
January 6, 2024



Stewardship

Stewardship is part of our Christian faith and life. It is often easier to talk about our ministry to one another and to the world, or our worship, or even our life of prayer. Talking about our resources, our time, talent and treasure can make us a bit queasy. It is through our time, talent and treasure that our ministry here at Saint James is able to flourish.

In order to reconcile our stewardship year with the calendar year, our plan was to distribute pledge cards in December. As is typical, life got in the way. Our prayerful consideration of our pledges will begin in January. That being said, many of you use envelopes for your offering. If you would like offering envelopes, they will be available beginning this Sunday, January 7th. When you arrive on Sunday morning, Sandy Grim will be seated at the Greeter's table. She will give you a box of envelopes and record the number on the envelopes. Later this month, you will receive a pledge card which will be linked to your envelope number.

My name will be honored.... From morning til night. All around the world people will offer...pure offerings in honor of my name. Malachi 1:11

New Year – New Intentions

Last week, as we heard once more about the Word made flesh, I asked you to choose a word, an intention, for the coming year. The word can be something that defines you or a goal to which you aspire. Faith, patience, confidence, prayer, peace, courage – the list is endless. Use sticky notes and place them where you might be reminded.

After having chosen your word, ask yourself what will move you closer to this intention. If your word was patience and patience doesn't just magically appear, what will you do to focus on increasing your patience? Will you sit quietly each day and sit with the discomfort caused when you are anxious? If prayer is your intention, how do you plan to deepen your life of prayer? Perhaps listening more and talking less? Perhaps a different type of prayer? Perhaps reading one of the mystics or another author about prayer. Whatever your intention, remember to include what steps you plan to include in your daily life.

With a new year, we can find comfort in the words of scripture: "*Behold, I make all things new.*" That, my friend, includes you and me.

Faithfully,

Sarah

THIS SUNDAY



JANUARY 7, 2024

Please Note – This Sunday, January 7th, a Coffee Hour will be held downstairs in the Parish Hall immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship to commemorate Epiphany. Light refreshments will be served and we invite everyone to join us to celebrate.

Please Also Note – The Healing Mass, usually scheduled after services on the first Sunday of the month, will be incorporated into our regular Sunday service so that everyone can join us for Coffee Hour.

LITURGIES – Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalms: 72:1-7, 10-14 (said);
Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12; Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12.

LAY MINISTERS –

Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Michael Larkin

Worship Leader: Marti LaRue

Old Testament Reader: Tom Hutt

New Testament Reader: Tom Hutt

Acolyte: Denise Jarrell

Greeter: Sandy Grim

Usher: Carol Hall

Altar Guild: Andi Bender

Counters: Tom Reilly &



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.



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, Penny Wilhelme, Diane Geist, Lindsey, Kira, Preston, Cindy, Dave, Jim, Terri. Pray for those who have died.

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Christina Pastore, Amy Holcomb, and Kaymari Castro.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the Bush family. Please remember to pray for Lisa 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 Diocese of Bristol – The Church of England.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for Christ Church, Dover. The Vestry Leadership and Parish; The Venerable Patricia Malcolm, Archdeacon.

MEETING

BIBLE STUDY

Listed for January 10th – February 28th, 2024

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 responsive to what God is saying. Throughout history, Christians have engaged in the practice of reading and studying scripture.

Beginning Wednesday, January 10th, we are restarting the 2024 Bible Study sessions. Listed below are sessions from January 10th through February 28th; the rest of the year's sessions will be posted when they are scheduled. You are invited to join in a study of scripture with others seeking to know God. Each Wednesday we will gather at 10:00 a.m. 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 – 2024 SCHEDULE


January 10 – John 1: 43-51
January 17 – Mark 1: 14-20
January 24 – Mark 1: 21-28
January 31 – Mark 1: 29-39

February 7 – Mark 9: 2-9
February 14 – ASH WEDNESDAY
February 21 – Mark 8:21-28
February 28 – John 2:13-22

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>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JANUARY BIRTHDAYS</u></p> 	2	– Eric Purdy	22	– Nazeef Bush
	3	– Bryanna Madden	22	– Andi Bender
	3	– Carol Hall	24	– Dawn Martinez
	7	– Christina Pastore	25	– Denise Jarrell
	9	– Amy Holcomb	29	– Charlotte Ruggieri
	12	– Kaymari Castro	31	– Tom Hall
	16	– Jack Malloy		
	17	– Stumpy Moore		
	17	– Arianna Hinds		
	21	– Georgina Martinez		

MISCELLANEOUS

ALTAR FLOWERS: 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: St. James Church. 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.

CORAL SPRINGS NURSING HOME: 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.

CALENDAR – JANUARY 7 – JANUARY 14, 2024

Sunday, January 7

(Celebrating The Epiphany)

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m. (The **Healing Mass** this month will be part of the
Worship Service)

Coffee Hour – To commemorate Epiphany, join us downstairs in the Parish Hall for
fellowship immediately after the 10:00 a.m. service

Wednesday, January 10

Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. in the Lounge

Sunday, January 14

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.

Vestry Meeting – immediately following worship service – Lounge

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK :

Wherever you go, bring your own sunshine!



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

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.*

Rev. 12/16/23