
The Weekly Parish Light

January 9, 2025

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

From the Rector – The Rev. Sarah Nelson



You know when you go to your physician and they attempt to explain things using multisyllabic words that you have absolutely no idea what they are talking about? Well the church that we all know and love has a tendency to do the same. When you are standing in line at ShopRite how often do you hear people talkie about Eucharist? Or how often at the Blue Rocks game do you hear conversations about The Episcopacy? Even n the evening news how often do you hear discussions about eschatology ? Yes we The Church have some strange topics of conversation. One word that we do hear isthe Apocalypse. Apovcalypse as defined by the Oxford dictionary is “the complete final destruction of the world.” Our Bible provides the illustration of Apocalypse in the final book of the Bible, Revelation.

As many attempts as I have made in reading the Book of Revelation, I must admit that I am only more confused when I finish. Last year at our annual clergy retreat Michael Battle an extremely learned man presented to us his book on the book of Revelation. I was fascinated, learned a great deal and still find Revelation or Apocolyptic literature mesmerizing and confusing.

During Lent this year the Bishop has asked that we all read *We Survived The End of The World:*

Lessons From Native America on Apocalypse and Hope. The book was written by Steven Charleston and is a fascinating, thought provoking very readable volume, that I highly recommend.

During Lent on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 you are invited to join isn’t the reading and discussions of this work. You can join either in person or by zoom. Lent begins on March 5 which is Ash Wednesday. During the following weeks March 12, March 19, March 26, April 5 we along with others throughout the Diocese will be engaging with this book.

I am letting you know now so that you can obtain the book and if you wish look ahead.

The Bishop will also be hosting evening discussions of Charlestons book that you can sign up to join. Either way I hope that you will use this Lent to reflectively and prayerfully learn more about our faith in these times.

Faithfully,

Sarah

SUNDAY'S LITURGIES – Old Testament: Isaiah 43:1-7 **Psalm:** *Psalm 29*

New Testament: *Acts 8:14-17* **Gospel:** *Luke 3:15-17,21-22*

LAY MINISTERS –

Director of Music Ministry: Dr. Michael Larkin

Worship Leader:

Old Testament Reader:

New Testament Reader:

Acolyte:

Greeter: Penny Geist

Usher:

Altar Guild:

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.

*In Our Thoughts
for Those Who Have Died*

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 *Jack Gilbreth, Linda White, Jessica Absher, Butch & Betty VanHekle, Ike Hammond, Lindsay Hammond, Marti LaRue, Sandy Grim, George Fischbach, Jim Bender, Ann, Carmen Scott, Diane Geist, Lindsey, Kira, Preston, Cindy, Dave, Joyce Beattie, Dean, Dutch, Chris, Jeannie Trotto.*

- Pray for those who have died.

Anyone wishing to have someone **placed on or taken off the prayer list** may email Stjamesnew@verizon.net or call the church office at 302-994-2029.

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.

MEETINGS



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 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



VESTRY MEETINGS: Vestry meetings are scheduled on the following dates:



WORSHIP MEETING: The Worship meetings are usually scheduled on the fourth Sunday of the month.



HEALING SERVICES are generally held on the first Sunday of each month in the Chapel immediately following the 10am worship service. They have been scheduled on the following dates: December 1st.



| | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|---------------------|
| 2 | Eric Purdy | 17 | Arianna Hinds |
| 3 | Bryanna Madden | 21 | Georgina Martinez |
| 3 | Carol Hall | 22 | Nazeef Bush |
| 7 | Christina Pastore | 22 | Andi Bender |
| 9 | Amy Holcomb | 24 | Dawn Martinez |
| 12 | Kamari Castro | 25 | Denise Jarrell |
| 16 | Jack Malloy | 29 | Charolotte Ruggieri |
| 17 | Stumpy Moore | 31 | Tom Hall |

2025 STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available if you would like to use them.

PLEDGE CARDS received will be linked to your envelope, if you desire to use the envelopes.

A & D CHALLENGE GRANT

The Work has been completed on our new roof, however our work has just begun, as part of our A&D Loan terms we have requested a Challenge Grant in the amount of \$5,000. This mean if we raise \$5,000 The A&D Committee will Match it! If you would like to contribute, please make sure you put a note on your check or offertory envelope that lets us know that it should go towards the Challenge Grant. Also, be on the look out for other Fundraising activities! If you have any fundraiser ideas please contact Tina!



OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

To submit exciting details about achievements about your Young Person, please email information (and if you desire, a picture) to: stjamesnew@verizon.net 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

Altar Flowers: After Easter, 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.

Memorial Garden Bricks- Tina will be placing an order for Bricks in the memorial garden, If you would like to purchase one please let tina know ASAP The order will be placed at the end of the month. The cost is \$100.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Know – God Love – People
Nurture – One Another Serve – The Community

Rector: The Rev. Sarah Nelson
Services: Sunday – 10:00 a.m.
E-mail: stjamesnew@verizon.net

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



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.⁹

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). **(Recently added are BOLDED)**

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

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 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. 03/28/24