



St. James' Notes



April 2019



Empowered by the Holy Spirit to be faithful disciples of Jesus, St. James' serves as a beacon of God's love and as a caring Christian family for the community, the nation and the world by seeking to restore all to unity with God and one another and by proclaiming the Good News through worship, witness, education, fellowship and service.

St. James' Episcopal Church at Mount Vernon
A parish church in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Dear People of St. James',

I'm doing less for Lent.

Usually I try to do more. I try to give up sweets, or read scripture, or do something intended to bring me closer to God. But either I've succeeded at my practice (and felt very self-congratulatory!), or I've failed at my practice (and felt like a failure). I can't say any of my Lent practices have brought me closer to God.

But this year, I'm doing less, and I'm asking for help. Instead of trying to get closer to God by myself, I'm relaxing, and I'm asking Jesus to help me.

I've been asking Jesus to help me pray. I've been asking Jesus to help me parent. I've been asking Jesus to help me be a better friend, husband, and priest. And when I realize that I've forgotten to ask Jesus to help me, I ask him to help me remember!

It's all really so easy. Lent is a season to draw closer to God. Jesus will do that for us, if we will ask him.

In Christ,
Charles+



Casual Church

"Let the children come..."

Sunday, April 7, at 10:15 am
Come and see!



*Members of St. James' with Bishop Curry on Ash Wednesday.
See article on page 3 from the Senior Warden.*

**St. James'
Episcopal Church
at Mount Vernon**

The Diocese of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan &
Ecclesiastical Authority

Rt. Rev. Robert Wilkes Ihloff
Bishop Associate

The Rev. Charles F. Brock
Rector

Staff

Jenny Kennedy
Parish Administrator

Alan Moser
Director of Music

Vestry

Ben Justesen (2020)
Sr. Warden

Diana Courtney (2021)
Jr. Warden
Christian Education

McKayla Braden (2022)
Evangelism & Publicity

James Eustis (2020)
Plant & Property

Chris Marbaker (2022)
Administration & Finance

Rosemarie Richard (2020)
Outreach

Mary Jane Vandenberg (2021)
Parish Family

Mike Morgan
Treasurer

Marge Smith
Register

Trustees

Peg Iber
Lib Mueller
Ray Smith

Sunday Suppers in Lent

The Way of Love

Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

In the first century Jesus of Nazareth inspired a movement. A community of people whose lives were centered on Jesus Christ and committed to living the way of God's unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial, and redemptive love. Before they were called "church" or "Christian," this Jesus Movement was simply called "the way."

During our five-week Lent program, we will explore a set of practices for a Jesus-centered life, The Way of Love. Join us on Sunday evenings, March 10 through April 7, for a simple supper of soup and salad, followed by a short program, and concluding with Compline. Supper will be served at 5pm, and the program will begin at 5:30. We will aim to finish each evening by 7pm. Childcare will be available if requested in advance

Thank you for Assisting in Worship During Holy Week

| | April 18, 7:30pm Maundy Thursday | April 19, 7:30pm Good Friday |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock |
| Vestry Person | Ray Smith | Ray Smith |
| Ushers | Mark & McKayla Braden | Peg Iber, Chad Duffield |
| Chalice | Bill Iber | |
| Lesson 1 | Peg Iber | Bill Iber |
| Lesson 2 | Janet Fallin | Bob Fitz |
| Prayers | David Batcheller | |
| Sacraments | Duffield Family | |
| Acolyte | TBA | |
| Organist | Alan Moser | Alan Moser |
| Counter | Ray Smith | Ray Smith |
| Altar Guild | Viani Team | Viani Team |

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Eliot Tucker | 23 Justin Iber |
| 11 Ellen Cleary | 25 Phil Trott |
| 13 Muriel Sue Kerr | 27 Isabel Spann |
| 16 Mary Bramley | 27 Lucas Thompson |
| 16 Pat Rowell | 28 Brady doCarmo |



Happy Anniversary

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| March 6, 1965 | Ray & Marge Smith |
| March 14, 1952 | George & Mary Ann Holthaus |
| March 17, 1961 | Eliot & Barbara Tucker |

From the Senior Warden

Rocking the house with the Apostle of Joy!

As the leading advocate of what he calls the “Jesus movement”—head of the movement’s Episcopal branch, as he puts it—and easily this country’s most recognizable Episcopalian, the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry is a man apart. After his animated message at the wedding last spring of Great Britain’s Prince Harry and Meghan Markle—one which left the normally unflappable Queen Elizabeth almost flustered—he is now a global star. He is also among the most gifted orators I have ever heard, bringing his words to life with the kind of booming verbal flourish that Shakespearean actors might envy, yet with no trace of dramatic artifice, only an overwhelmingly genuine sincerity. Using a microphone—which he hardly needed—he literally gallops among his audience, easily interweaving anecdotes of ordinary life with the divine Scriptures—from First Corinthians, on this night—to drive his message home. As a speaker, he rocked the house. But Bishop Curry is so much more than that: in the words of a bishop of another denomination, Carroll A. Baltimore, he is a “holy man”—and “touchable.” I was fortunate enough to be among those from St. James’ Episcopal Church who went to hear him speak on Ash Wednesday, at a revival benefit for Bishop Baltimore’s international ministries. I call Bishop Curry the Apostle of Joy—for he gladly sings his praises of the love of Jesus Christ, and its healing powers, and the change it can make in all of us, with an infectious joy that no one in his hearing can resist. If he knows he is a star, it does not matter to him, for his preferred star is that over Bethlehem, which long ago heralded the arrival of our Savior, whose love saves us all. “When love breaks out, we all get set free,” he told us, and he was right. We were blessed to have seen and heard him, and even more blessed to bring his message back to St. James’—where it must now continue to spread.



Yours in Christ,

Ben Justesen, Sr. Warden

Mission and Outreach

First Quarter Mission 2019

Please join us in giving to the Episcopal Relief and Development "Gifts for Life" fund. Your donations will help needy families across the world alleviate hunger and be able to grow/their own food. Make your checks payable to St. James' Episcopal Church, noting what gift you would like to give in the memo line, and place your check in the offering plate on Sunday. Or drop it in the mail to the church office. We'll tabulate all, combine partial gifts, and announce the results of our campaign in April.



\$15 will provide nourishment for one child supporting tomorrow's minds today.

\$35 will provide a family with life's most basic necessity - clean water.

\$35 will provide care for a vulnerable mom and her baby.

\$80 will provide a family in need with a goat. A goat can provide a family with a stable source of food and earnings.

\$100 will provide vocational training to help one student pursue a brighter future.

Bulletin Board

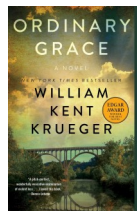
Spring Cleaning!

With spring weather finally here and Easter quickly approaching, please join us Saturday, April 13, from 9:00am to noon (or as long as you can!) for a church-wide cleaning. Activities will include a general clean-up of the grounds, spreading mulch, cleaning windows and scrubbing scuffmarks off interior walls. If you would like to work outside please bring gloves; additional rakes would be useful as well. Suggestion for a specific project? Please contact James.Eustis@gmail.com for inclusion on the day's "to-do list."



Book Club

St. James' Book Club will meet on Thursday, April 11 and we will discuss *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. Questions? Call Lib Mueller at (703) 360-0561. Everyone is welcome. Join us!



SAVE THE DATE - Shrine Mont

Our annual parish retreat at Shrine Mont in the beautiful, majestic mountains of Virginia will be the weekend of July 5-7. Our weekend away is also the Shrine Mont Celebration Weekend, there will be extra fun activities for all to enjoy. More information to follow.



Daniel Ordained!

Our summer seminarian, Daniel Johnson, was ordained on Saturday, March 2. David Batcheller attended.

Congratulations Daniel!



Sunday School and Adult Forum Every Sunday

At 9:00am we have Adult Forum with coffee and conversation in Braxton Hall. At 10:00am we offer Sunday School for children



Kindergarten through 5th grade. The children join their parents in church for the passing of the peace and communion. On the first Sunday of each month we offer Casual Church. Casual Church is designed to be especially engaging for children of all ages. After the worship service there are activities for children and snacks for all in Braxton Hall.

Theology on Tap Thursday, April 11, 6pm at Mount Vernon Inn

Join us as we meet to socialize and chat. The Mount Vernon Inn is located at 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria, VA. 22309. Questions? Contact maryfbramley@gmail.com or (703) 629-9158.



Yard Sale News

St. James' will hold its next Yard Sale in 2020, probably April. Guidelines will be communicated in the fall 2019, but start saving your items now. Please clean, fix, label problems as you sort; does it work - what's wrong? Please price your items yourself... suggested price ranges will come in the fall.

STARTING RIGHT AWAY, we will sell more valuable items (\$20 +) on eBay and Craig's List. Bring these items to church anytime. Include any information (dates, history, pattern, origin, etc.). This increases interest and value. Contact Marghe (marghe.bowker@gmail.com, 703-799-1567), or the church office with questions.



Choir Notes

Dear St. James' friends,

In one of my favorite movies, an espionage plot is foiled by the addition of "a touch of spice" in a secret chemical formula. I was fortunate recently to find an old favorite anthem to which "a touch of spice" has been added that makes it a wonderful expression of praise for Easter morning. Martin Shaw composed "With a Voice of Singing" for a choir festival in 1923. His text is already joyful:



With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name, make praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

In a new edition, the substitution of "Christ is risen" for the first "Alleluia" seems to me to complete the thought for an Easter message. On Easter morning, I hope it will for you as well.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Alan Moser



Evangelism & Publicity

As a new vestry member, I would like to ask you to please share your thoughts and ideas in the areas of my assignment, *Evangelism and Publicity*. In the simplest way I can state this is **HELP!** I want to do a good job for the parish- but I believe that these are all tasks that we share as members of St. James'. I can't do it by myself, nor can the Vestry. We need to consciously think about inviting visitors to our church, something we can all do; new neighbors, friends at the gym, and at school for example. We can all help to publicize our events in our own communities where we live and welcome new comers with enthusiasm and warmth. I remember that Mark and I were drawn to St. James' the very first time we came seeking a new parish. There was no escaping! And I mean that in a very good way. The friendship I felt that very first time back in 1987 still resonates with me today.



Our lives are so crazy busy now, that it's difficult to take the time to think about what each one of us can do to ensure that this community remains vibrant. I feel like so many neighbors are maybe missing out on the love our church gives in our community. How can we better let folks know? The March "Casual Church" service was so fun. Let's everyone invite friends and family to the April Casual Church.

And remember to invite folks to our lovely Easter service. Thanks always for you love, support and ideas.

Mckayla Braden

Schedule of Ministry ~ April 7 to May 5

| | April 7 | April 14 | April 21 | April 28 | May 5 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Casual Church | Palm Sunday | Easter | Easter 2 | Casual Church |
| Celebrant | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock |
| Vestry Person | Chris Marbaker | Rosemarie Richard | Mary Jane Vandenberg | McKayla Braden | Diana Courtney |
| Ushers | Peg Iber Chad Duffield | Ray Smith Peg Iber | Wayne Johnson Mike Morgan | Lewis Clark Susan Clark | Ray Smith Ellen Cleary |
| | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am |
| Chalice | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson | Paul Vivian | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson |
| Lesson 1 | Andy Wormser | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson | Andy Wormser | David Batcheller |
| Lesson 2 | Tim Myers | Agnes Chapman | Janet Fallin | Tim Myers | Agnes Chapman |
| Prayers | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson | Paul Vivian | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson |
| | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am |
| Sunday School | Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard | Diana Courtney | Heidi Brock | Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard | Diana Courtney |
| | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am |
| Chalice | Mary Bramley | Chris Marbaker | Amber Tussing | Peg Iber | Bob Fitz |
| Lesson 1 | | Suzanne Synnestvedt | Bob Blair | Ryan Duffield | |
| Psalm | | sung | Mary Blair | sung | |
| Lesson 2 | | McKayla Braden | Ben Justesen | Cheryl Nostrand | |
| Prayers | | Mark Braden | Marghe Bowker | Mike Morgan | |
| Sacraments | Nancy Sherick Peg Iber | Heidi Brock Diana Courtney | Lewis Clark Susan Clark | Laurie doCarmo Lib Mueller | Eustis Family |
| Acolyte | Amber Tussing | Aly Duffield | Ryan Duffield | Elizabeth Lowman | Ben Justesen |
| Organist | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser |
| Counter | Nancy Sherick | Jane Wosoogh | Wayne Johnson | Marge Smith | Jane Wosoogh |
| Altar Guild | Viani Team | Viani Team | Viani Team | Viani Team | Iber Team |

April 2019

EVERY WEEK at St. James' Episcopal Church

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|--------------|
| 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Sunday School 10:15a Holy Eucharist 11:30a Coffee | | | 11a Bible Study 12p Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:30p Lunch 6:30p Choir 8:30p AA Mtg | | | 8:30p AA Mtg |

THIS MONTH at St. James' Episcopal Church

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---------|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| 31 March Lent 4 5pm Sunday Supper | 1 April | 2 | 3 | 4 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry | 5 | 6 |
| 7 April Lent 5 Casual Church 5pm Sunday Supper | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 1pm Book Club 6pm Theology on Tap | 12 | 13 9am Brotherhood Spring Cleaning Day |
| 14 April Palm Sunday | 15 | 16 7:15pm Vestry | 17 | 18 Maundy Thursday 7:30pm Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar | 19 Good Friday 12pm Stations of the Cross 7:30pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday | 20 |
| 21 April Easter Sunday | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 April Easter 2 | 29 | 30 | 1 May | 2 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry | 3 | 4 |
| 5 May Easter 3 Casual Church | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry | 10 | 11 9am Brotherhood |

Please always check the online calendar for the most up-to-date event information. Go to our website at www.stjamesmv.org and click on Online Calendar. If you would like to add an event to the calendar, please contact the Parish Office.



St. James' Episcopal Church
Mount Vernon, VA
5614 Old Mill Road
Alexandria, VA 22309-3332
703-780-3081 www.stjamesmv.org

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HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

April 14 8:00am and 10:15am

Holy Eucharist with Liturgy of the Palms

Maundy Thursday

April 18 7:30pm

Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday

April 19

12:00pm Stations of the Cross (outside, weather permitting)

7:30pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

Easter Sunday

April 21 8:00am and 10:15am

Celebration of the Resurrection

Easter Egg Hunt and Reception following 10:15am service



Easter Egg Hunt!