



St. James' Notes



November 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',

As we engage in our annual stewardship campaign at St. James', I encourage each parishioner to pause and reflect on just how much our church means to us. Is it a place to come and worship once a week in shared communion? Or is it more than that? Isn't it truly a place of renewal and rejuvenation, where we may grow and prosper spiritually by working together to serve God?



I find St. James' both a refuge and a jumping-off point in my life, one that provides solace in times of trouble and a spur to my inner growth beyond the other parts of my daily life: job, family, paying the bills, doing yard work. Much of my life outside the church is solitary work—at the computer, in the car, in the library, reading a book—and sometimes I forget how very much more a shared experience can mean. Working together with other parishioners on a project—whether as mundane as changing a chandelier light bulb or as awe-inspiring as donning an acolyte's robe to assist at the Eucharist—is a fresh reminder of how important our parish life is to me. It is addictive behavior—the best kind, of course—but it requires time and commitment.

Finding the time to volunteer isn't always easy, yet it is nonetheless a reward in itself—for it gives me a chance to work with others, in pursuit of a joint goal. When I reflect on our parish life—a joint venture all its own, like a much larger family—I find a renewed sense of worth welling up inside me for the next great challenge ahead.

Volunteering a pledge, much like volunteering one's time, is an important way to nurture one's growth. It offers the chance to make a quiet investment in that larger community of the beloved—and the reward is invisible, yet almost incalculable. When you fill out your pledge card in the weeks ahead, remember that as you grow, so does your parish—and as you support parish life, it supports you in return.

Thanks be to God!

Ben Justesen



food • community • sustainability

Come Pack Meals on Saturday, November 23, 9am-Noon

Bring a Friend!

Read more about this Outreach Project inside on page 4.

Bulletin Board

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

Susan Clark
Register

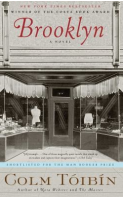
Trustees

Peg Iber
Lib Mueller
Ray Smith



Book Club

Like to read? Please join Book Club once a month on the second Thursday at 1:00pm in the church's library. We meet next, Thursday, November 14, to discuss *Guernica* by Dave Boling and then we read *Brooklyn* by Colm Tobin for our December 12 meeting. Join Us!



New Address

Bob & Jane Fitz want to thank everyone for their kindness and support over the years and hope you will come visit them in their new home in Winchester, Virginia.

Robert and Jane Fitz

145 Elderberry Drive, Winchester VA 22603 Home (540) 450-3375

Bob's cell (703) 795-7052

Robert.Fitz@verison.net

Jane's cell (703) 216-2732

JaneFitz@verison.net

Prayers

Happy Birthday

- 1 Bill Iber
- 3 Mary Whitehouse
- 4 Mike Morgan
- 10 Gavin Collins
- 10 Elizabeth Lowman
- 21 Kathryn Prigmore
- 24 Chris Iber



Happy Anniversary

November 15, 1975
Rick & Andy De La Cour

November 20, 1965
Michael & Cheryl Viani

November 22, 2003
Charles & Heidi Brock

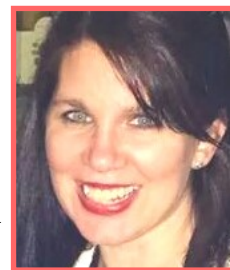


We Want to Include You

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed here, please let us know so that we can include you. You may email to office@stjamesmv.org or call (703) 780-3081. Thanks!

From the Jr. Warden

GRATITUDE



It could be the cold, crisp air that now greets us every morning and evening. It could be the rustle of leaves on the trees, in the street and in my yard. It could be the sightings of pumpkins and the smell of pumpkin spice pretty much everywhere I go. Or it could be just the fact that November is already upon us. Whatever the reason, gratitude has been on my mind and heart recently.

In today's world, its easy to be ungrateful for all the blessings in this life. We are bombarded with images and ideas that we need to be better or do better or have better. Bigger house, better yard, bigger tv, better car. Taller, skinnier, better dressed, more hair or better hair. More money, better job, bigger job title, bigger promotion. I have found over the years that I have to remember that gratitude comes down to remembering two words: great attitude. After all, our gratitude is a choice we make or an attitude we take each and every day. For me, it's the reminder that:

- ⇒ I'm grateful for financial struggles, because that means I have possessions of value.
- ⇒ I'm grateful for stress at work, because that means I have a job.
- ⇒ I'm grateful for relational issues, because that means that I have people that are important to me in my life.
- ⇒ I'm grateful for health and medical challenges because I realize how short and unpredictable life can be.

All of these things remind me how grateful I am that I know a loving God that will carry me through all of these stresses and issues in life. Moreover, I don't need to worry about these things, because God is there to take that burden from me.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phillipians 4:4-7

During this season of thanksgiving, I encourage you to start making everyday thanksgiving. Be grateful for the blessings that you do have and forget about what the world tells you that you don't have. Start changing your attitude into one of gratitude. After all, gratitude really is just having a **GR**eAt **AT**tITUDE about the life that God has provided.

Diana Courtney

Blessing of the Animals



Our Blessing of the Animals on October 4 was furrily enjoyed!

Mission and Outreach

**Come Pack Meals on
Saturday, November 23,
9am-Noon
Bring a Friend!**



Mission of the 4th Quarter Christmas Toys for Children

Our Annual Christmas Toys for Children collection will provide holiday gifts (toys and books) for needy area children, through UCM (United Community Ministries). Starting in November tags will be available in the gallery to pick up so you can shop for a special boy or girl. We will collect new toys for children aged infant to teen. Purchase your gifts and books – please don't wrap – and bring back to St. James' by Sunday, December 8 or before.

We will bring the gifts and books over to UCM to use in their Holiday Gift Room where parents get to pick a gift for their own child and wrap it themselves. With our help UCM will provide gifts to over 1000 needy children in our area!

You may also make a monetary donation and appropriate gifts will be purchased for use in UCM's Holiday Gift Room. Write your check to St. James' and put "XMAS for children" in the memo line. Thank you!

Come out on the Saturday before Thanksgiving to pack meals to feed over 10,000 hungry people. This will be the fourth year that we have participated in this program, formerly called Stop Hunger Now. It is a fun and rewarding way to work together in the service of others. And it is a great way to introduce friends and neighbors to the good things we are doing here at St. James'.

The cost to prepare and deliver these 10,000 meals around the world is \$3000... that's just 30 cents a meal! We are asking for donations to help underwrite the cost... please donate generously and put your check in the collection plate with a note, "Rise Against Hunger"!



Bulletin Board



Yard Sale News

St. James' will hold its next Yard Sale in 2020, probably April. Start saving your items now. Please clean, fix, and label problems as you sort. Please price your items yourself.

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.



Ben Justesen, McKenzie Duffield, The Rev. Pedro Cuevas and David Batcheler enjoyed the day at Virginia Theological Seminary, where they attended a training for seminarians and their Lay Committees.

Choir Notes

Dear St. James' friends,

"For all the saints..." we traditionally sing proclaiming the start of the liturgy on All Saints Sunday at the beginning of each November. But this year, we will allow those words to *"...from their labors rest."* Instead, we will sing some of our songs from our Casual Church repertoire. But, lest you feel symptoms of withdrawal, here are some musings about that "traditional" hymn.



How traditional is it? You can apply your own standard, but here are some data. The text was first published in 1864 by the Reverend William Walsham How (1823-1897) during his tenure as Rector of Whittington. He later became a suffragan bishop of London, styled Bishop of Bedford, and subsequently Bishop of Wakefield. You can find some of his other hymns scattered through the Hymnal 1982. And for those of you who bristle at singing ALL EIGHT VERSES of *For all the saints*, you can take heart in its having been reduced from an original eleven (verses about apostles, evangelists, and martyrs are frequently omitted in hymnals).

What about the tune? We are used to pairing the text with Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Sine nomine*, which was composed with this hymn in mind. I find it amusing that a tune which has been called "one of the finest hymn tunes of [the 20th] century" has a tune name which translates to "without a name." Prior to the introduction of the tune and text together in the English Hymnal in 1906, *For all the saints* was usually sung to a tune called *Sarum*, composed by Joseph Barnby. This pairing is still preserved in some hymnals, and was included in the 1940 Episcopal hymnal. Disappointed that we don't sing Barnby? You can find two other of his hymn tunes in Hymnal 1982: #427, *When morning gilds the skies* (tune name *Laudes Domini*), and #42, *Now the day is over* (tune name *Merrial*).

By the way, at about the same time that Vaughan Williams' *Sine nomine* was composed for this text, another great British composer, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, composed yet another tune specifically for use with this hymn. It is known as *Engelberg*, and although it hasn't survived as the tune for *For all the saints*, it certainly has not been forgotten. We find it three times in Hymnal 1982: as the tune for the baptismal hymn *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more*; for the more recent hymn of praise, *When in our music, God is glorified*, and with the hymn, *All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine*.

Bishop How's words may not ring through St. James' this year, but I know we continue to hear *"the distant triumph song...Alleluia, alleluia!"*

Soli Deo Gloria!

Alan Moser



Meals on Wheels Needs Volunteers

St. James' chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew provides volunteers for the Fairfax County Meals on Wheels program on the third Wednesday of each month. We'd like to invite all men and woman of St. James' to consider participating in the Meals on Wheels program. We go in teams of two: one person to drive, the other to "jump." We deliver to the area off Richmond Highway just north of St. James'. It usually takes just over an hour to complete the route. In order to become a volunteer, one must submit an application to Fairfax County Volunteer Services and pass a (very simple) background check. The application may be submitted on-line. If you're interested or would like more information please contact either David Batcheller dlb703@live.com 703-799-8922 or John Thompson jlt4song@cox.net 703-718-0911. Thanks and please know how impactful this program is for members of our community who need meals delivered to their homes.



Schedule of Ministry ~ November 3 to December 1

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24	December 1
	Pentecost 21	Pentecost 22	Pentecost 23	Christ the King	Advent 1
	All Saints Casual Church				Casual Church
Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
Preacher		Ray Bonniwell	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas		
Vestry Person	Mary Jane Vanden Berg	McKayla Braden	Diana Courtney	James Eustis	Ben Justesen
Ushers	Susan Clark Ellen Cleary	Mark Braden McKayla Braden	Wayne Johnson Ray Smith	Bob Blair Mary Blair	Mike Morgan Barbara Riley
	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am
Chalice	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas	Ray Bonniwell	David Batcheller	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas	Ray Bonniwell
Lesson 1	Tim Myers	Janet Fallin	Agnes Chapman	Ray Bonniwell	David Batcheller
Lesson 2	Andy Wormser	David Batcheller	TBD	Janet Fallin	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas
Prayers	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas	Ray Bonniwell	David Batcheller	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas	Ray Bonniwell
	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Sunday School	Casual Church	Katie Eustis	Heidi Brock	No Sunday School	Casual Church
	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am
Chalice	The Rev. Pedro Cuevas	Mary Bramley	Mike Morgan	Chris Marbaker	Marghe Bowker
Lesson 1		McKayla Braden	Cheryl Nostrand	Ben Justesen	
Psalm		Mark Braden	Mary Blair	Suzanne Synnestvedt	
Lesson 2		James Eustis	Ally Duffield	Mike Morgan	
Prayers		Ryan Duffield	Bob Blair	Marghe Bowker	
Sacraments	Diana Marbaker Family	Barbara Riley Anne Patrick	Duffield Family	Diana Courtney Heidi Brock	Susan Clark Laurie DoCarmo
Acolyte		Ally Duffield	Ben Justesen	Ryan Duffield	Ally Duffield
Organist	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
Counter	Nancy Sherick	Jane Wosoogh	Wayne Johnson	Marge Smith	Nancy Sherick
Altar Guild	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Iber Team

November 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 Rite II 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
27 October Pentecost 20	28	29	30	31	1 November	2
3 November All Saints' Day Casual Church	4	5 7:15p Vestry	6	7 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	8	9 8am Brotherhood Breakfast
10 November Pentecost 22	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 1:00 Book Club	15	16
17 November Pentecost 23	18	19	20	21	22	23 9am Rise Against Hunger
24 November Christ the King	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:30pm	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 14
MOUNT VERNON, VA

Thanksgiving Evening Prayer
Wednesday, November 27, 7:30pm
St. James' Episcopal Church

