

January 27, 2022

From Fr. John

Last Sunday we had our Annual Meeting — a “business practice” that the congregation has to follow, according to Church law. While conducting the meeting and looking out at all of those present, who really were interested in the good operation and overall health of St. James, what struck me was what a good place this is. You, as a worshipping community, have endured a lot over the last couple of years. I think that everyone here would agree that they would rather the next two years be somewhat smoother and without all of the upheaval that came with a pandemic and leadership changes. But even with all that has transpired, I feel a sense of hopefulness and joy every Sunday. I thank God for you all, and for your resilience.

During Sunday’s meeting, I challenged everyone to start thinking and praying about where St. James goes next and what the next chapter of our history might look like. If you have any thoughts on what might be coming next for this congregation, please get in touch with any of your 2022 Wardens or Vestry members. As a reminder, these are the people who have been elected:

Sr. Warden, Charlotte Sterling; Jr. Warden, Robert Ratcliff; Tom McBride, Vestry member and Treasurer; and Vestry Members — Chad Norton, Joshua Brown, Holly Dixon, Roy Rosenthal, Drew Texada, Lindsey Torbett, and Frances Yeager. I know that any of them would be happy to hear from you, as I would.

I look forward to working with your Wardens and Vestry to lead you into what I pray will be a wonderful 2022.

Canon John+

Click here to view: [Annual Parish Report](#).

Let’s Have a Pounding!

There’s an old-fashioned tradition of welcoming a family into their new home by offering them a “pounding”—a pound of this and that to help them stock up on basic supplies that are essential to most households. In keeping with this practice, St. James is hosting a pounding for a family of four who came to our area from Houma after losing their residence and almost all of their possessions during Hurricane Ida. They now plan to make Alexandria their home, and we want to help kickstart their life here.



Here’s how you can participate: bring a non-perishable basic pantry item (e.g., sugar, flour, coffee, cereal, ketchup, salt, etc.), canned food, paper goods, or cleaning supplies to the church and place it in the blue bin in the Parish Hall. We will receive items through this Sunday, January 30. You can drop off donations before or after church on Sunday or 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. through Thursday, January 27.

Some things to keep in mind:

- The family consists of two adults, a 2-year-old girl and 12-year-old boy.
- Space is limited in their mobile home, so small sizes are best (a standard size rather than Sam’s quantity).
- If you prefer, you can purchase a Walmart gift card to donate to the family. That would allow them to purchase perishable food items or other household goods that they may need to select themselves. Please do not put gift cards into the bin; instead, give them to Rita Klock or Joy Owensby.



Community Breakfast - Sunday, January 30th

Come meet some of our neighbors at breakfast this Sunday, which will be staged as a “to go” meal so that we respect physical distance protocols and ensure the safety of all. Plan to arrive at 7:30 AM sharp if you wish to volunteer with meal prep, or drop in at 8:30 greet our guests or to grab a cup of coffee and some food. Contact Rev. Michael Parham at 318-201-7989 for more information

January Ministry Fund

Thanks to your generosity and a generous donation from Deacon Michael’s Discretionary Fund, St. James was able to work with 25 families to provide \$6,663.81 for utility and rental assistance.

Unfortunately the need is great. There are currently 8 families on our waiting list. Please remember that the first Sunday “loose plate” collection (cash) is designated for the Ministry Fund, and we welcome donations by check as well - please make checks payable to St. James with Ministry Fund written in the check’s Memo section. Thank you!





Curtain Up for Michael!

Still time to make plans to attend a benefit concert for our own choir director, Michael Sterne! Sixteen organizations are combining talent and effort to present an Evening of Broadway to help defray unexpected financial expenses associated with a kidney transplant he will have this year.

Saturday - January 29 @ 7:30 p.m.
Sunday - January 30 @ 2:30 p.m.

Martin Performing Arts Center, Louisiana College

Tickets: \$15.00 Youth, \$25.00 Soloist, \$50.00 Virtuoso, \$100 Maestro

Those who are unable to attend can help by making a donation of any amount to St. James Episcopal Church with a note in Memo section: Fundraiser for Michael.

Church Directory

Time for a new Church Directory! So much has happened in the year with so many new faces that we decided to update the directory a little earlier than usual. So please send the church office updated information, if any, regarding address, phone number(s), and email(s). Also a current picture would be appreciated.



Working Together

Louisiana Interfaith is an organization dedicated to bringing worship communities together, in an effort to see what common ground there is between denominations, with regard to helping those who need our help the most. The Cenla chapter of Interfaith is planning a meeting at which we will hopefully open dialogue between all of the local worship communities. The Cenla meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2022, at 6:00pm at Congregation Gemiluth, 2021 Turner St. Before that meeting takes place, there will be a meeting of Cenla Episcopalians, to discuss what things in the community are important to our denomination. That meeting will be February 3, 2022, at 6:00pm, here at St. James, in the parish hall. If a Godly response to the social problems of our community interests you, you are welcome at either, or both meetings.

Special Remembrance Opportunities

The opportunity to remember loved ones in a special way is afforded each week through individuals/families providing flowers for our altar. A sign-up poster will be displayed in the Narthex of the church for your convenience. Several Sundays are spoken for already.



If you are not able to sign up in the church, please call or email the church office to find out whether or not a particular date is available. The asking amount for flowers is \$75.00.

The Sanctuary Lamp is another way to honor loved ones on a monthly basis for an asking of \$40.00.

Worship



January 30th
The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
In-person Worship @ 10:30 AM
Childcare is available!

[Click here for the readings.](#)

January 30th
Evening Prayer
Online @ 5:00 PM

[Click on this link to join Evening Prayer.](#)

Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077
Passcode: 1620

[Click here for the order of service & readings.](#)



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

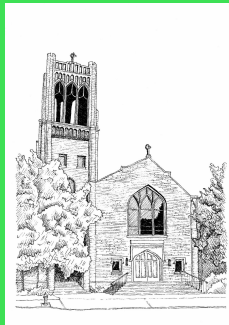
Charlotte Sterling, Tim and Alexis Heflin, Henry Blake, Matthew Fontanille, Jaxsom McElwee, Bonnie McCartney, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Dixie Leigh Platt, Ty Cedars, Stacy, Kristie Fresh, Mattie Dean McNaughton, Sawyer, John, Bernard Parker, James Sinclair, Johnnie Hart, Emily, Taylor Thompson, Todd Fuller, Jane Y. Harris, Chase Barnfield, Kip Hogue, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Jimmy Hurt, Charlotte Thrift, Mesta Bain, Margaret Broussard, Allie Bunyog, Dean M. Tyree, Ron Kingston, Cecile Brunson, Felicia, Rita Clancey, Barry Mercer, Annie, Jackie Jeanne, Jaclyn Cutrone, Dietrich DeBoer, Beverly Butler, Bruce Gremillion, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Betty Anne Close, Bill Leibke, Sarah, Jackie Moody, Wayne and Barbara Moorehead, Pat Carter, Richard Norem, Kevin Hooter, Warren Paul, Cindy Smith, Jane Tyson, Gerard, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

Samuel Hayes, Steven Brevelle, Franklin Watson, Kyle Jordan, Gill Tatman-Tyree, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Steven P. Lemoine, Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in January (day):

Dana Brunson (3), Joy Owensby (3), Lauren Vines (3), Patrick Owensby (4), Ruthlyn Jarvis (5), Charlotte Sterling (9), Sydney Hazel (10), Nona Yeager (13), Mary Belle Marshall (14), Ryan McCartney (17), Isabella Allen (20), Eva Andrus (22), Taylor Bedingfield (23), Kendall From (25), Chris Hazel (25), Bailey Adams (27), Lacey Brown (27), Sandra Daigle (27), John Brewer (28), Kristina McBride (28), Lindsay Holton (30), Ann Robicheaux (30).



[Visit our Website](#)

St. James Episcopal Church | 1620 Murray Street, Alexandria, LA 71301 | 318.445.9845

