



February 9, 2022

From Fr. John

In last week's sermon, I said that each and every one of us is "worthy," not only of God's love, but of accepting the call to serve God. Through Jesus Christ, we were made worthy. And through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are given the tools we need to accomplish the ministries to which God calls us.

I believe that St. James is approaching an inflection point in its lifecycle. The (hopefully) coming end of the pandemic is going to be a time where many churches – as well as some local businesses – are going to have to decide what their futures look like. As a community, we can push the arc of our own future in one direction or the other. But first we are going to need to determine the possibilities for our future, and which ones we might pursue. That will require us praying about and discussing what is important to us and what is not.

Lent is the season for introspection. So, I suggest that we all consider adopting, as a part of whatever Lenten discipline we might choose, a time of daily prayer, seeking discernment of St. James future, as well as how each of us might be instrumental in the success of that future. I am happy to discuss these things with any of you. But you will also need to bring your thoughts and ideas to your vestry, since they will be a crucial part of moving the congregation into its future.

In words from our Book of Common Prayer, let us pray: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace,
Fr. John+



Opportunities to Serve

Are you looking for ways to serve at St. James? Have you ever considered becoming a Lector? They are the people who read from the Old Testament and Epistles during the service. How about becoming a Eucharistic Minister? They are the people who serve at the altar by administering the chalice (the Blood of Christ) during Communion. Or would you like to do those things in a one-on-one situation? Eucharistic Visitors take the elements of Communion, Body and Blood of Christ, from the altar to people who cannot come to church. They conduct short services in a manner prescribed by the Church, bringing a sacramental presence to those who would otherwise not receive it.

If any of those sound like ministries God might be calling you to, please let Fr. John know. He can talk with you about these ministries and explain what the requirements and training would be.

A Resounding Success

CURTAIN UP FOR MICHAEL, an evening of Broadway presented by Cenla's best, January 29th & 30th at the Martin Performing Arts Center on the campus of Louisiana College, and the fundraising activities which involved a multitude of performing and presenting arts organizations, was a resounding success. Thanks to the vision of Laine Berry Miller, the many volunteers who offered their individual unique talents, and to gracious contributors, this first fundraising effort to help our director of music, Michael Sterne, with the costs of his kidney treatments and eventual replacement, was a great success. We were able to reach our first goal of raising an initial \$30,000.00 to help with the enormous medical expenses and insurance deductibles.



Michael's journey, however, is a long and arduous one and the need continues. You may still make donations by writing tax deductible checks to St. James or to City Park Players (make sure to mention it is for the Michael Sterne fund), or by contributing online at <https://www.stjamesla.org> (click on the "give" tab), or by visiting official website for donations, <https://givebutter.com/4c8SN>.

All who participated are grateful to Louisiana College for their donation of the Martin Performing Arts Center and to the many technicians, artistic directors, performers, and everyone behind the scenes who donated their time and talents to this worthy event. Thanks to City Park Players serving as fiscal agent, and to St. James for being the central repository for the funds. All donations will go directly to help Michael meet the financial burdens created by his need for a kidney transplant.

Thank you for supporting CURTAIN UP FOR MICHAEL!



Last Call for Church Directory Update

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.

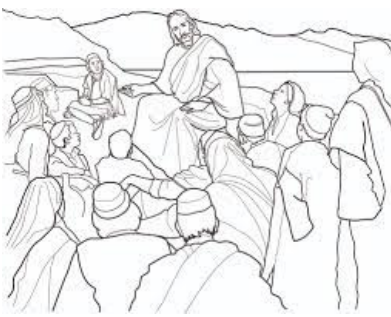
Coffee Hour

Join us for a Valentine's Day-themed coffee hour & fellowship this Sunday morning following the 10:30 AM service courtesy of Bobbie Hess and Suzie Butler. This is a great opportunity to visit and catch up on what is happening within our church family.



If you would like to help either with refreshments or as a server for this ministry, call or text Melanie Torbett at 318-792-1953.

Worship



February 13th

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

In-person Worship @ 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Childcare is available at 10:00 AM!

[Click here for the readings.](#)

February 13th
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:

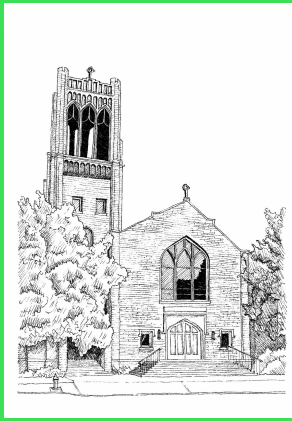
Jim Leggett, Wayne McBride, Charlotte Sterling, Tim and Alexis Heflin, Matthew Fontanille, Jaxsom McElwee, Bonnie McCartney, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Ty Cedars, Stacy, Kristie Fresh, Mattie Dean McNaughton, Sawyer, John, Bernard Parker, James Sinclair, Johnnie Hart, Emily, Taylor Thompson, 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., Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in February (day):

Carl Close (1), Sara Fuhrer (1), Brik Hazel (2), Morgan Brewer (4), Emerson Milliner (5), Bruce Jordan (6), Chad Norton (6), Pat Carter (10), Lawrence Searcy (12), Emma McCartney (15), Rita Clancey (19), Tommy Brasher (22), Henry Blake (23), Brady Brown (24), Bernard Parker (25), Lee Couvillon (26), Melanie Jurgensen (26).



[Visit our Website](#)

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

