

March 2, 2022

From Fr. John

Centuries ago, Christians began to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, on the day before Ash Wednesday. It is pretty obvious where the name "Fat Tuesday," comes from. In the ancient Church, every Christian was expected to do without certain foods during the season of Lent, as a way of being penitent and to sharpen the mind for their spiritual practices. Butter, eggs and cooking fat were things to be avoided as a Lenten discipline. Thus, the people ate pancakes on Tuesday, to indulge (and to use up supplies) before the next day's fast began. So, on Tuesday you ate fat and then gave it up for the next season.

"Shrove Tuesday" seems on its face, to be a bit more obscure. But it really is not. In the English Church of the Middle Ages, the people were expected to go to their confessor and unburden themselves of all the year's sins on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Once the confession was complete, the priest would "shrive" (Old English from the Latin 'to write') them penitence, after which, they were ready to enter the season of Lent.

Have a wonderful Fat Tuesday at our pancake supper tonight. Even in 2022, filling oneself with pancakes is a great way to lead into tomorrow's Ash Wednesday services. I hope to see you all there.

Canon John+



Shrove Tuesday

Free Pancake Supper Tonight

Join us at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall as we "clean out the larder" in preparation for Lent!

ASH WEDNESDAY

Tomorrow - March 2, 2022

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Chapel 7:00 a.m. - Nave 12:10 p.m. and 5:15 p.m



Stations of the Cross

Consider adding the **Stations of the Cross** to your Lenten devotions and disciplines. The service takes place **every Friday** during Lent at **12:15 p.m.** in the Nave of the church. It only takes about 30 minutes and you will feel spiritually refreshed and have a deeper understanding of Christ's journey to The Cross.

Diocesan Convention This Friday & Saturday

Please remember in your prayers the participants in the Diocesan Convention as they meet to discern what is best for our diocese as a whole. Members of St. James who are attending are Fr. John, Susan Alexander, Daniel Manuel, Roy Rosenthal, and Kathy Vaughn.

Celebration

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate Fr. John officially becoming our new rector! A festive reception in the Parish Hall honoring him, his wife, Donna, and daughter, Taylor, will follow the 10:30 am service.



February Ministry Fund

Thanks to your generosity, St. James was able to assist 9 families with \$1506 towards primarily utilities. Unfortunately, as you yourself are aware, the need is greater due to higher utilities with so many on fixed incomes. There are 14 families on our waiting list with so many more that we have turned away. 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!

Church Directory Available in Narthex, Chapel, and Parish Hall

Please let the office know if any changes have occurred in address, phone number, and/or email address.



Wednesday Night Offering During Lent

On Wednesday, March 9th, St. James is once again providing Faith & Fellowship programming!

Dinner and Fellowship begin at 6:00 p.m.
Meals are \$5 for adults and free for anyone 18 and younger.

The Youth meet at 6:30 p.m. for Christian Formation and Fellowship.

Adults meet in the Parlor at 6:45 p.m. for "**Revive**"! The difference between knowing about God and being in a relationship with God has been compared to the difference between reading a menu and eating the meal. The same can be said about our church work. A relationship with God, framed by Jesus' teachings, is the most transformative gift the church can give our long-serving, dedicated servants of Christ. Join us as we explore this gift of thanks for the dedicated service of people who have worked so hard for the church, yet feel like they do not know God as deeply as they desire. By accepting this opportunity, participants will grow in confidence as spiritual leaders who yearn to live a Jesus-shaped life.

WindSync Concert - Save the Date

Mark your calendar now for March 11 at 7:00 pm to enjoy the free and unique sounds of WindSync, a vibrant chamber ensemble performing wind quintet masterworks, adapting beloved music to their instrumentation, and championing new works by today's composers. The quintet eliminates the "fourth wall" between musicians and audience by often performing from memory, creating an intimate connection. This personal performance style, combined with the ensemble's three-pronged mission of artistry, education, and community-building, lends WindSync its reputation as "a group of virtuosos who are also wonderful people, too".

~ Alison Young, Classical MPR



You can see and hear performances and reviews at
<https://www.windsync.org/>.



Funeral Arrangements for Henry Blake

On Saturday, March 12, the arrangements for Henry Blake are as follows:

Visitation in the Parish Hall: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Funeral Service in the Nave: 12:00 p.m.
Interment at Mt. Olivet: 3:00 p.m.

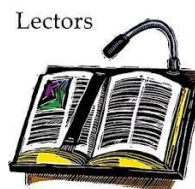
Update on Charlotte Sterling

Our Sr. Warden, Charlotte Sterling, is at her daughter's home in Lafayette while undergoing physical therapy. She will be there at least another month. Several have asked about her recovery and would like to send her a message. Her email address is poohandpoet@suddenlink.net and she checks FaceBook regularly. Snail mail is appreciated, as well: 512 Beverly Drive, Lafayette, LA 70503.



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.

Worship



March 6th
The First Sunday in Lent
In-person Worship @ 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
Childcare is available at 10:00 AM!

[Click here for the readings.](#)

March 6th
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:

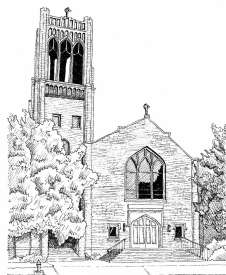
Easton Chase, James Deshotel, Anna Stapleton, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Jim Leggett, Charlotte Sterling, Tim and Alexis Heflin, Matthew Fontanille, Jaxson McElwee, Bonnie McCartney, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Ty Cedars, Stacy, Kristie Fresh, Sawyer, John, Mattie Dean McNaughton, 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 March (day):

Alexis Heflin (1), Melinda Mikell (1), Janet Ahrens (5), Elizabeth Drell (6), Randy Despino (8), Shepard Searcy (9), Randy Welch (13), Julie Despino (14), Bobby Levy (15), Barbara Moorehead (16), Alex Norton (22), Tom McBride (25), Don Kramer (27), Bryce Dixon (28), Betty Gaiennie (29).



Visit our Website

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

