

March 16, 2022

From Fr. John

A tradition began in 1806, at St. Paul's Anglican Church, in Knightsbridge, England, in which the priest called the faithful to the church at noon on Good Friday. Those assembled experienced a liturgy referred to as: The Three Hours' Agony. This liturgy originally came from the Roman Catholic Church. It consisted of prayer, scripture reading, and seven sermons on Jesus' last words. It lasted from noon to 3:00pm, to reflect upon the hours during which Jesus hung on the cross.

This year, on Good Friday, St. James will offer a modified version of The Three Hours' Agony. At 12:15, we will have the Good Friday liturgy, with the Solemn Collects and Communion from the reserve sacrament. At 1:15pm we will have meditations on the Seven Last Words of Jesus. These meditations will be written and delivered by parishioners and me. At 2:15pm, we will have the traditional Stations of the Cross.

While I encourage those who are able, to come and experience all three hours of worship and contemplation, I understand that the modern world makes it difficult. Please plan to attend whatever you can of what is being offered. There will be time built in to allow people to come and go between the three offerings.

We have been unable to properly commemorate the Passion, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of our Lord, during this pandemic. This Holy Week, we are offering something every day, from Tuesday through Saturday. If you allow yourself to fully enter into the depths of the uncertainty and fear experienced by the disciples, and the pain, and despair experienced by Jesus during Holy Week, you will be amazed at the magnification of your joy at Easter. Please plan to be with us as often as possible.

Fr. John+



Wednesday Night Offering During Lent

Dinner and Fellowship begin at 6:00 p.m.

[Tonight's Menu: baked ziti with Italian sausage, an Italian salad, garlic bread, and a dessert.]

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.

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.



Coffee Hour

Join us for coffee hour & fellowship this Sunday morning following the 10:30 AM service. 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.

Mark Your Calendar Now

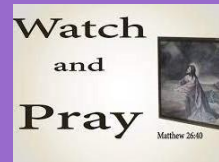
Join us for one or both of these opportunities to assist in preparing for Easter! No previous experience needed! Training offered on the spot!

- 1) Making of Altar Bread - Tuesday, March 22 - 9:00 a.m. - Parish Hall
- 2) Making of Palm Crosses - Saturday, April 9 - 9:00 a.m. - Parish Hall



Maundy Thursday Vigil Returns

Jesus said, "could you not stay awake with me one hour?" Matthew 26:40 (NRSV)



The Maundy Thursday (Thursday in Holy Week) liturgy is a very powerful one. But perhaps the most moving part of the service comes at the end, when the altar area of the church is stripped of everything that makes it look grand, and perhaps all that makes it look "occupied." The end of the Maundy Thursday service reminds us of that place and time in which Jesus was arrested and taken away, leaving the Disciples alone.

The period of time between The Last Supper and sunrise on Good Friday is commemorated by a Gethsemane Watch, or Maundy Thursday Vigil. Beginning this Sunday there will be a signup sheet in the Narthex for those who would like to stay in the Chapel for one overnight hour on April 14/15. There will be an Alexandria Police Department officer on premises all night for security. There will be reading and prayer resources available for those who participate.

Helping Ukrainian Families

Episcopal Relief & Development is working closely with Anglican agencies and ecumenical partners to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of Ukrainians fleeing violence in Europe. People quickly packed up and fled Ukraine to safety and are now in need of basic supplies and will need long-term support. Your contribution to the Episcopal Relief & Development Ukraine Crisis Response Fund will help provide cash, blankets and other items.

To make a donation, please fill out the coupon below and mail it in with your check or credit card information. You can also contribute online to the Ukraine Crisis Response Fund at episcopalrelief.org/ukraine-crisis. Thank you for your compassion and prayers. With your partnership, we are working together for lasting change.

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Please make checks payable to Episcopal Relief & Development. Mail to P.O. Box 7058 Merrifield VA 22116-7058. **OR**

FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS: Please charge my gift to my: VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover. My gift to the International Disaster Response Fund to assist those who are in need. \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other \$ _____

Name _____
Name of your church - City _____

Address _____
Account number - Expiration date _____

City, State, Zip _____
Name on card _____

Your email address _____
Signature _____

Phone Number _____

All gifts are tax-deductible.



Easter Flower Memorials

It is the custom of St. James at Easter to invite our parish family to make a contribution to the glory of God and in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a loved one. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those we love, but these gifts allow for the festive decoration of the church. If this is your wish, please send your donation along with the names of those you wish to remember to the church office no later than Tuesday,

April 12th. Offering envelopes are also in the church pew racks. (You may email the names to the office for clarity in spelling, as well: info@stjamesla.org.)



Nursery Assistance Needed

St. James has been blessed with 3 very dedicated women who for years have taken care of our children in the nursery. However, there are times when our ladies are ill or have family obligations that require someone to take their place. Perhaps someone you know or even yourself would be interested in being a substitute. There are 3 requirements: a love of children, a background check, and taking the Safeguarding God's Children courses. Please contact Rita (318.445.9845) for

further information on of the church. If this is your wish, please send your donation along with the names of those you wish to remember to the church office no later than Tuesday, April 12th. Offering envelopes are also in the church pew racks. (You may email the names to the office for clarity in spelling, as well.)

Additions & Corrections to Church Directory

Only one correction: Theresa Louviere Levy: Cell 318.623.9045

Several additions since the home phones of many were omitted:

Marie Durham 318.442.8764
Betty Gaiennie 318.452.4225
Sue Ellen Jackson 318.443.7657
Ruthlyn Jarvis 318.794.2799
Jim Marshal 318.442.9747
Sara Marshall 318. 776.5148
Melinda Mikell 318.442.8442
Minnie Mikell 318.443.1505
Jonalyn Reynolds 318.542.9921
Ann Robichaux 318.787.3732
Charlotte Sterling 318.487.8480



Worship



March 20th
The Third 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 20th
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:

Stephen, Easton Chase, Jack Bender, 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.

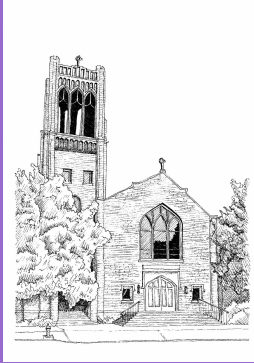
For those in the military:

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

