



December 28, 2022

From Fr. John

This Sunday is the commemoration of the Holy Name of Jesus. In our services, I will say the following "Collect" or prayer of the day.

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

As we approach the traditional time in which Americans make "New Year's resolutions," it seems to me that the Collect for the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus might be instructive for us.

This year, if you are looking for something to resolve to do for the year 2023, forget about diets (which, if you're like me, will be forgotten in a week or two); forget about new gym memberships (which likely won't last much longer than the diet). Instead, how about this:

Resolve to live out the year with the love of our Lord Jesus Christ in your heart.

I confess here, that in those times when I get short-tempered or dismissive of others, the last thing on my mind is the love of our Lord Jesus Christ (either his for me, or mine for him). So, what kind of difference could I make if I lived out every hour of every day with the love of Jesus as the most important thing in my life? There is not a single chance in the world that I will be able to live out every hour of every day showing that single-minded dedication. But it certainly makes for a good resolution. And even if I only manage to increase the love of Jesus in my heart by some percentage, I will be much better for it. And so will all of you who interact with me.

I give thanks to the God who gives every good gift, that I have been given the opportunity to be your Rector. I look forward to what blessings may be in store for St. James in the coming year. And I pray the each of you may have a safe and blessed year.

Now, in the words of St. Paul, "may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Fr. John+

Church Office will be Closed

Friday - Monday
December 30, 2022 - January 2, 2023

May you and your family have a very blessed
Christmas Season!



First Sunday Ministry Fund

During December, St. James was able to assist 25 families with \$7122.14 towards utilities, rent, and IDs. This was due to not only **your generosity**, but also from the donation of \$4000 from Emmanuel Baptist's Benevolence Fund. Their ministry committee decided that St. James sees more people and wanted their money to reach as many people as possible.

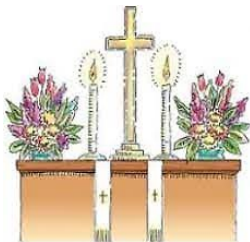
The need remains great since the multiple utilities' bills have not been completely resolved as yet. So many are on fixed incomes. Please remember that the first Sunday "loose plate" collection (cash) is designated for the Ministry Fund, and we welcome donations by check as well - please make checks payable to St. James with Ministry Fund written in the check's Memo section. Thank you!

END of the YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS and PLEDGES



If you wish to fulfill your 2022 pledge or make any other contributions to receive a tax benefit for the year end 2022, please note that contributions must be dated for December, and received by Friday, December 30. If you wish to hand deliver them to the church office, they must be in before noon on Friday, December 30. Any online pledges/contributions must be made before midnight, Saturday, December 31.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN IN YOUR PLEDGE CARD FOR 2023!



Special Remembrances

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 for your convenience. More than one family may sign up for a Sunday.

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

Worship



January 1 The Holy Name

In-person Worship at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Childcare is available for the 10:30 AM service.

[Click on this link to join the 10:30 AM service.](#)

[Click here for the service bulletin.](#)

**NO Evening Prayer
Resumes January 8, 2023**
Online @ 5:00 PM



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

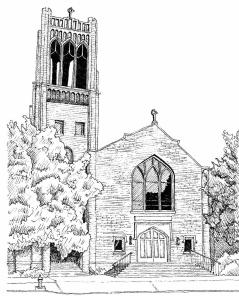
Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Kip Hogue, Jim Bristol, Gary Maxwell, Ellen Moore, Bill Owens, Mother Meredith Ward, Pat Carter, Betty Gaiennie, Jack Dewitt, Sr., Beth Hebert, Rita & Bill Clancey, Jimmy Hurt, Carol Rowe, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, Donnie Hayes, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Bill and Beverly Jarvis, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Peggy Humbles, Laura Murchison, Darriel & Charles, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Richard Norem, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Bernard Parker, Rachel and Ben, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Shannon Norman, Bill Jarvis, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Stacy and Richard, Chase Barnfield, Taylor Thompson, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Jackie Jeanne, Dietrich DeBoer, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Donna House, Dayna Hill, Kevin Hooter, Jane Tyson, Gerard, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

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

For those celebrating birthdays in January (day):

Dana Brunson (3), Joy Owensby (3), Patrick Owensby (4), Ruthlyn Jarvis (5), Charlotte Sterling (9), Nona Yeager (13), Clementine Devine (14), Mary Belle Marshall (14), Ryan McCartney (17), Taylor Bedingfield (23), Eva Andrus (24), Bailey Adams (27), Lacey Brown (27), John Brewer (28), Kristina McBride (28), Lindsay Holton (30), Ann Robichaux (30).



Visit our Website

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