

March 22, 2023

From Fr. John

Since we restarted our Wednesday night faith and fellowship evenings, we have been watching the series, *The Chosen*, put out by Angel Studios. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this series, it is a crowd-source funded video series that retells — and in some ways, reimagines — the earthly ministry of Jesus.

The series has people playing the parts of Jesus and his Disciples who are near the actual ages of those about whom we read in the Gospels. They challenge some of our original assumptions about who these people were. As I have said to the “class,” these are not the people we’ve seen in stained glass all our lives. They are men and women in their 30s and that makes us think.

These disciples, and Jesus, are fleshed out characters, meaning that they don’t just go from Gospel story to Gospel story, reciting verses from the Bible. These people have senses of humor and personal quirks. And all of that has made us, as a group, think about our preconceptions. What if the characters in this video are the way that the real people were? What, if anything, does that change about the way we view the Gospel narrative?

These Wednesday evenings have been very rewarding for me. Not only because I am enjoying *The Chosen*, but more because I am enjoying the discussions that follow each episode. The more time we spend together thinking and talking about Jesus, the better we will all understand his time on earth. At least that is what we hope.

Tonight we start season three of the series. It’s not too late for you to join us. You can binge-watch the other seasons at home. And even if you choose not to do that, you’ll still get a lot out of joining in now. As I said, it has been a very rewarding and edifying experience for me. I believe that it has also been received that way by the rest of the group. Come and join us if you wish. I don’t think that you’ll regret it.

Peace,
Fr. John+



Lenten Opportunities

- **Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist & Healing Service**- 5:15 p.m. in the Chapel
- **Stations of the Cross** - Every Friday at 12:15 p.m. in the Church



Tonight

Dinner: 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall
[Spaghetti & meatballs, salad, bread, dessert]
[\$5 for adults; FREE ages 18 & under]

JEYC/EYC: 6:30 p.m. in Youth Building
Adult Class: 6:30 p.m. in Parlor
Beginning of Season 3 of *The Chosen*

Community Breakfast

Come meet some of our neighbors this Sunday as we enjoy our delicious and free Community Breakfast from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.!



If you wish to volunteer with meal prep and/or serving, plan to arrive at 7:30 a.m.

No Adult Class nor coffee hour this Sunday.



Make Palm Crosses

No previous experience needed!
Training offered on the spot!

Saturday - April 1
9:30 a.m. - Parish Hall
Fellowship, coffee, snacks!

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of the Palms followed by the Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. - Front of Chapel

10:30 a.m. Patio off Parish Hall - Procession into Church

TUESDAY in HOLY WEEK

10:30 a.m. Diocesan Chrism Mass with Renewal of Ordination Vows - Church

WEDNESDAY in HOLY WEEK

Regular Faith & Fellowship

5:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Healing Service - Chapel

6:00 p.m. Dinner - Parish Hall

6:30 p.m. EYC - Youth Building

6:45 p.m. Adult Class - Parlor

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Washing of the Feet - Church

7:30 p.m. - 7:30 a.m. Vigil - Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY

12:15 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday - Church

1:15 p.m. Meditations on Last Seven Words of Christ - Church

2:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Church

[Church Office Closed]

HOLY SATURDAY

THE GREAT VIGIL of EASTER

10:00 a.m. Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday - Chancel

6:00 p.m. Convocational Celebration - Kindling of the new fire, lighting of the Paschal Candle, followed by the first Festival Eucharist of Easter

[Nursery Available]

EASTER DAY

THE GREAT FESTIVAL of the RESURRECTION

9:00 a.m. Easter Brunch - Parish Hall

9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Parlor [Ages 5 and Younger]

Easter Egg Hunt - Youth Building [Ages 6 - 10]

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Flowering of the Cross - Church

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, April 10, 2023.

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 6/7. There will be a Sheriff's deputy on premises all night for security. There will be reading and prayer resources available for those who participate.

Watch
and
Pray



Matthew 26:40

https://www.stjamesla.org



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 4th. Offering envelopes are also in the church pew racks. (You may email the names to the office for clarity in spelling, as well: rita@stjamesla.org.)

Eggs Needed

St. James is having a hunt!
An egg hunt!
Actually 2 egg hunts!

Easter Day at 9:30 a.m.!



One for children ages 5 and under will be in the patio off the Parish Hall.
The other one for ages 6 - 10 in the area around the Denley Patio.

Donations of pre-wrapped candy are being accepted!
Place in the blue crate in the Parish Hall.

Worship



March 26th
Fifth Sunday in Lent

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.](#)

March 26, 2023
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 & reading.](#)



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

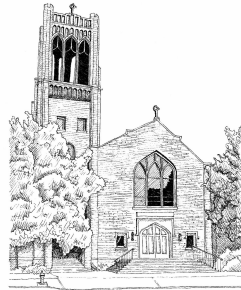
Carli, Fr. John, Lacy Shaw, Sam Bejach, Gary and Becky Maxwell, Liz McSween, Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Kip Hogue, Charles, Jim Bristol, Ellen Moore, Bill Owens, Mother Meredith Ward, Pat Carter, Jack Dewitt, Sr., Beth Hebert, Rita & Bill Clancey, Jimmy Hurt, Carol Rowe, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, Donnie Hayes, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Bill and Beverly Jarvis, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Laura Murchison, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Richard Norem, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Bernard Parker, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Shannon Norman, 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, 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:

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

For those celebrating birthdays in March (day):

Melinda Mikell (1), Janet Ahrens (5), Alexander Adams (7), Donnie Hayes (7), Randall Despino (8), Edmond O'Quin (8), Shepard Searcy (9), Courtney Dixon (10), Randy Welch (13), Julie Despino (14), Barbara Moorehead (16), Alex Norton (22), Tom McBride (25), Don Kramer (27), Bryce Dixon (28).



Visit our Website

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



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

[Unsubscribe rita@stjamesla.org](mailto:rita@stjamesla.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by rita@stjamesla.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!