

July 12, 2023

From Fr. John

I was emailing back and forth with Gary Delahoussaye today and the correspondence left me with a heavy heart. Gary let me know that the last Vestry meeting was the last one he would be attending. He, Julia, and Claire have now completed their move to Lafayette. I knew that it was coming. But now it is real. And while we know that the move is good for them, it is still hard.

It's always difficult to say goodbye to people with whom you have a relationship. It does not matter whether it is a job-related move, like the Delahoussaye/Callis move, or a separation because of problems between people, or even separation by death. No matter what the reason for being apart, the absence of someone we care about leaves a hole in our lives.

At the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus told the gathered disciples, "[R]emember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." I believe that the same is true of those with whom we have had relationships. They stay with us, in our memories, in our hearts, even to the end of the age.

As is true in so many situations, our Book of Common Prayer has a prayer for occasions such as this. Prayer 52, "For the Absent," on page 830, is written in the more antiquated language. I have reworded it. Let us pray for all those whom we miss.

O God, whose care for all of creation reaches to the ends of the earth: We humbly pray that you would graciously look upon and bless those whom we love, but who are now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing closer to you, may be bound together by your love, in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the never-ending fellowship of the saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fr. John+



Wednesday Evening Service

During the summer, Fr. John continues to offer the 5:15 p.m. Healing Service with Holy Eucharist in the chapel.

Adult Christian Formation

We are beginning our study of the story of Abraham from the Book of Genesis. Come and join us in the parlor at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. Bring a cup of coffee, or your favorite beverage, and sit in. There is no preparation needed to join in the discussion.



Please Notice This



Change in Meetings

Worship Committee Meeting - This Sunday, July 16, in the Parlor following 10:30 a.m. service

Vestry Meeting - Sunday, July 23, in the Walker Building following the 10:30 a.m. service

Nursery Changes

After 7 years of dedicated service as one of our nursery attendants, Gloria Hill has decided to retire. For those of us who have had babies, young children, and grandchildren, Gloria has been a godsend. With patience and love, she has cared for so many, rarely missing a Sunday. Thank you, Gloria, for being a part of the St. James staff and, by extension, family.



We are further blessed to have Dorethea Haywood joining Sarah Frazier in the nursery beginning Sunday, July 30. Please make a point to stop by and welcome her.



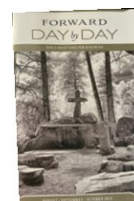
Home Communion in July

During the course of the summer months, we at St. James gather as a faith community in the homes of parishioners for "table fellowship" – by breaking Bread during Holy Communion and then by breaking bread together for our dinner meal. Host families provide the entrée while guests provide salads, sides, desserts, and drinks. Plan to join us for our July 19th (Wednesday) gathering at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Tish and Babson Fresh (3820 Rue Left Bank in Alexandria - off Brown's Bend Road behind Tractor Supply Co.).

If anyone is interested in hosting the August Home Communion, please contact Fr. John or the office.

Forward Day by Day

Available now in the Church, Chapel, and Parish Hall, the Day by Day booklets offers short, daily devotions that give the reader a focal point for the day. This is available online as well.



WORSHIP



July 16th

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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.](#)

July 16, 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:

Brady Brown, Heather Craig, Dr. Wesley Davis, Steve Caballero, Anna Stapleton, Shannon Norman, Janelle Prindle, Jimmy Perkins, Ann Vanderslice, Charles Robinson, Belle Chatelain, Larry, Eleanor, Carli McGinty, Fr. John, Lacy Shaw, Sam Bejach, Lawrence, Liz McSween, Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Kip Hogue, Charles, Jim Bristol, Ellen Moore, Mother Meredith Ward, Pat Carter, Beth Hebert, Rita Clancey, Jimmy Hurt, Carol Rowe, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, Donnie Hayes, John Brewer, Fred

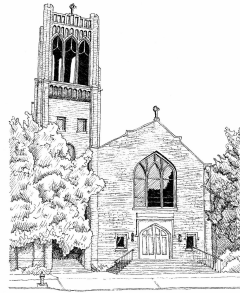
Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Robbie G., Jonathan Rhea, Minnie Mikell, Massi Jordan, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Bernard Parker, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Chase Barnfield, Taylor Thompson, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Donna House, Dayna Hill, Jane Tyson, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

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

For those celebrating birthdays in July (day):

Brooksy Semple (3), Dave Curry (4), Judy Curry (7), Josh Brown (10), Bill Henderson (10), Ulla Knoepp (12), Caroline Theus (14), Monroe Adams (16), Jamie Lemoine (18), Sailor Ellzey (23), William Maynard (23), Mary Cozad (25), Cullen Theus (27), Martha Walker (28).



Visit our Website

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