



April 1, 2026

From Fr. John

Even in the midst of Holy Week, life goes on. As you can see, elsewhere in these announcements, John Brewer passed into eternal life yesterday. And it reminded me of what the Passion of our Lord and his Resurrection really mean for us.

Last Sunday, we prayed this Collect as we prepared to process into the Church with our palms in hand:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect pretty well encapsulates our Christian understanding of life, death, and resurrection. That is: thanks to the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord, we are all given resurrected lives to live, both now, and into eternity. We may suffer pain along the way – physical pain, emotional pain, and spiritual pain, particularly the pain of loss. But in the end, we will rest in peace and rise in the glory of our Lord and Savior, to share in those eternal habitations that he prepares for us. And before we get to our own mansions, prepared by Jesus, we can take comfort from knowing that he walks beside us all the time.

As we enter the three days of remembering Christ's time in the tomb, give yourself over to the pain the Disciples felt after they "lost" him. There is no better preparation for shouting, "He is Risen!"

May you have a meaningful Holy Week.

Fr. John

Holy Eucharist with Healing Service
Tonight - Wednesday, April 1
5:15 PM in the Chapel.



Faith & Fellowship TONIGHT - April 1

- Holy Eucharist with Healing Service - 5:15 PM - Chapel
- Choir Rehearsal - 5:15 PM - Choir Loft

- Fellowship Dinner - 6:00 PM - Parish Hall - Spaghetti & meatballs & more
[Still \$5 for everyone 14 & older!]
- Program - 6:45 PM - in Parlor - The Chosen: Gethsemane Recap

MAUNDY THURSDAY VIGIL

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.



Even if you did not sign up for an hour and find that you would like to come into the Chapel to pray, please drop in for whatever time that you can on April 2/3. 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.



Easter Vigil Saturday - April 4

This year, St. James parishioners are invited to travel to Trinity Episcopal Church in Natchitoches for a shared Easter Vigil service to be held on April 4th at 8:00 p.m.

Transportation between Alexandria and Natchitoches will be provided, with vans loading at St. James promptly at 5:00 p.m. We plan to enjoy a nice, sit-down meal together prior to the service; parishioners are responsible for their meal.

Easter "Brunch"

Join us Easter morning at 9am in the Parish Hall for Boards, Breads and Eggs. Please consider bringing something to share whether it's a special Easter bread, an egg-themed or egg-shaped dish, or a prepared board of goodies. We will host an Easter egg hunt at 9:45 a.m. on church lawn and are accepting donations of individually wrapped candy. If you have questions or would like to help please reach out to Lacey Brown ([lacee.brown@hotmail.com](mailto:lacey.brown@hotmail.com) or 318.613.9235).



First Sunday Ministry Fund

On this joyous Sunday, the loose plate offering is designated for the Ministry Fund. The need continues to grow with several phone calls and drop-ins weekly, if not daily. There are fewer resources available each month. Through your generosity, in March we assisted **18 families** with utilities, rent, work shoes, and birth certificate

for a total of **\$3560**. St. James continues to provide hope for these families, as well as, safety and a knowledge that someone really does care. Please give as generously as you are able. (Checks are also accepted, designated for Ministry Fund.)

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday in Holy Week – April 1st

5:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Healing – Chapel
6:00 p.m. Dinner – Parish Hall
6:30 p.m. Program – Parlor

Maundy Thursday – April 2nd

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing followed by
the Solemn Stripping of the Altar – Church
8:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Vigil – Chapel

Good Friday Services – April 3rd

12:15 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday – Church
1:15 p.m. Meditations on the Last Seven Words of Christ – Church
2:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Church – Church
[Church Office Closed]

Holy Saturday Services – April 4th

10:00 a.m. Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday – Church
8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter – Trinity Church, Natchitoches
[5:00 p.m. Van leaves for Natchitoches – Dinner then Service]

Day of Resurrection - Easter Day – April 5th

No 8:00 a.m. Service of Worship on Easter Day
9:00 a.m. Easter Fellowship Refreshments – Parish Hall
9:45 a.m. Children's Easter Egg Hunt – Meet in Parlor
10:30 a.m. Festal Eucharist of the Resurrection with
Flowering of the Cross – Church
5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer – Online

Church Office Closed - Monday in Easter Week – April 6th

Our Heartfelt Condolences



Long-time member of St. James, John Morgan Brewer, Sr., died Monday, March 30. Our prayers and sympathy are with the family.

Funeral service will be Tuesday, April 7, at 11:00 a.m. at St. James. Visitation will be in the church from 10:00 a.m. till time of service.

Messy Church Next Sunday

April 12



Try, try again!

Come along with Messy Church for a sweet and meaningful afternoon together!

We're heading to a favorite local watering hole where we can enjoy a cool treat while hearing the wonderful story of Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. Meet us at Palmettos (1319 Military Highway, Pineville) at 1:00 pm on April 12th and be treated to your choice of shaved ice!

For more information or questions about this offering, please contact Mother Shelley at (318) 445-9845.



Holocaust Remembrance Service

Monday, April 13 - 6 pm.

Meet initially at the Holocaust Memorial (4th and Elliott Streets) and then walk to Emmanuel Baptist Church's Chapel for the remainder of the service. If you are not able to make the walk but would like to attend service, just go directly to the chapel.

Our guest speaker will be very interesting as she shares her grandmother's Holocaust story and the research she has done on the art that was stolen by the Nazis. We hope you will join us and tell others.

Cursillo #157

April 17 - 19, 2026

Wesley Center in Woodworth, LA



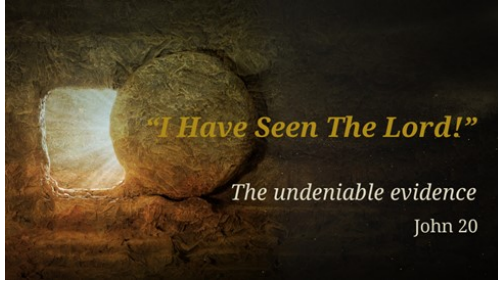
Cursillo is a three-day weekend in which those attending engage in study, reflection, service to others, worship and prayer, all within the context of the community of the Body of Christ. The weekend provides an opportunity to grow in faith and spirituality, and a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how we can serve him. It also provides an experience of living and sharing with others in a loving and caring Christian community that continues afterwards to give support and encouragement in daily life.

Free to attend! Visit website: <https://wlacursillo.com>

WORSHIP

April 5, 2026

Easter Day



Worship Service 10:30 AM Only With Flowering of the Cross

Child care available for 10:30 AM

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

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

Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

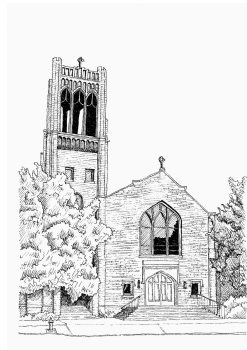
The Brewer Family, Jon Grimes, Anna, Mary Elizabeth, Linda Thompson, Ira Dean Dupar, Niyoke Gibson, Michael Sterne, Mary Ann Clarey, Cathy Augustine, Sarah McGinty, Terri Hicks, LaTanya Klos, Carl Carstens, Glenda Whitaker, Jacob Williams, Jude Geiger, Donna Carter, Nicole, Charlotte Sterling, Andy Craig, Cindy Craig, Marlon Ewell, Elwood Marcotte, Sue Ellen Jackson, Fr. John, Ebie Taylor Strauss, Fr. Aaron, Maureen James, Jonalyn Reynolds, Stella Craig, Helen Ajlani, Murel Trimble, Fred Alexius, Emmy Brewer, Melanee Trimble, Alayna Bordelon, The McCartney Family, Tommy Watts, Michael S., Sara Marshall, Charles Robinson, Sophia Frey Bradford, Beth Courtney, Jimmy Hurt, Barbara Baldwin, Paula Lieberman, Pepe Rizzo, Carl Ahrens, Wilma Filipi, Jane Y. Harris, Mark Goldich, and Mehre Hajighassem.

For those in the military:

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

April (day)

Tucker McLure (1), Babson Fresh (5), Foster Walker (5), Laura Johnson (9), Jeff Matthews (10), L. B. Matthews (12), Rita Klock (17), Clay Ray (21), Vivian Cabrera (22), Linda Hargrove (23), Stephen Dubois (25), Fred Alexius (29), Kathy Kingsley (30)



Visit our Website

Digital Suggestion Box

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