



St. James Parish

WITH ST. MARK'S MINISTRIES

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The Rev. George C. Roberts, Rector

Blake Hansen, *Director of Music*
Susan Deming, *Parish Administrator*
Ray Smith, *Sexton*

Lee Febos, *Clergy Intern*
Cheryl Rusczyk, *Admin., St. Mark's Ministries*
Kim McLaurin, *Nursery Supervisor*

OFFICERS

Kathy Bullard & David Tompkins, *Wardens*
EJ Ososki, *Treasurer*

Bonnie Sudell, *Clerk*
Jerry Hess, *Ass't Treasurer*

VESTRY

2026
Kathy Bullard
Doug McDowell
Molly Sherman

2027
Linda Mason
Ed Preneta
David Tompkins

2028
David Hrdlicka
Carol Kirkwood
Michael Slusarz

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026, 10:15 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE 2

Prelude (*please listen in silence, preparing for worship*)

Procession (*in silence*)

The Word of God

- ◆The Decalogue BCP pg. 350
- ◆HYMN *The glory of these forty days* Hymnal 143
- ◆Opening Sentences BCP pg. 355
- ◆Collect for Purity BCP pg. 355
- ◆Trisagion Hymnal (front section) S 101
- ◆Collect of the Day (*Contemporary, in unison*) see insert
- First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1–13
- Psalm 23 (*responsively, the People in bold*) see insert
- Second Reading Ephesians 5:8–14
- ◆HYMN *I want to walk as a child of the light* (vv. 1–2) Hymnal 490
- ◆The Holy Gospel John 9:1–41
- ◆HYMN *I want to walk as a child of the light* (v. 3) Hymnal 490
- The Sermon The Rev. George Roberts
- The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358
- ◆The Prayers of the People – Form IV, *responsively* BCP pg. 388

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray

especially for Susan Livingston, Maxine Christensen, Phil, Bill, Lisa Vallee, Danielle Harris, Jer H., Bob C., Emilia, Matt G., Tiffany O., John M., Brian, Cruz, Karen, Jane B., Jane, Robert Pizzanello, Geoffrey Newton, Jayla, Heather, Laurent, Tom, and all others, silently or aloud. [*pause here*] Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP pg. 360

The Peace BCP pg. 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory *I heard the voice of Jesus say* Thomas Tallis

◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3) Hymnal 380

*The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A BCP pg. 361

**Sanctus* Hymnal (front section) S 130

*The Lord's Prayer BCP pg. 364

*The Breaking of the Bread BCP pg. 364

Gluten-free hosts are available.

**Agnus Dei* Hymnal (front section) S 164

Communion Hymns: 339, 547, 465

◆Postcommunion Prayer BCP pg. 365

◆Lenten Prayer (*in unison*) BCP pg. 832

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Announcements

◆HYMN *Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old* Hymnal 567

The Dismissal BCP pg. 366

Postlude (*please remain seated to enjoy the Postlude or depart in silence*)

◆ You are invited to stand, as able. * You are invited to kneel, as able.

BCP refers to *The Book of Common Prayer*, found in the pew book rack.

The hand-hewn cross crafted by John Newton will anchor our prayers during this upcoming Lenten season. We have used John's cross in Lent for a number of years and it has been a blessing as we focus our Lenten prayers. We ask that, if you would like to place a prayer concern/need on the Cross, you come up after the service (or anytime you wish to come by the church), take a card (available at the Cross itself), write your prayer request on it, place the card on the Cross with an iron nail provided in the bowl (use the hammer, if you would like) in solidarity with Christ's Passion. Be blessed this Lent!



Serving this week

Crucifer		Chloe Roberts
Acolytes		Story Cadigan & Sefakor Tompkins
Altar Guild		Barbara Hess & Elizabeth McBride
Chalichists	8:00 a.m.	Jerry Hess
	10:15 a.m.	Andrea Harris
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Jay Hostetter
	10:15 a.m.	Grier Torrence
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Roland Therrien
	10:15 a.m.	Tracey Roberts & Joyce Bettencourt
Welcomer		Sue Holland
Coffee Hour Host		Erica Nofziger



We welcome all who are guests with us this week – we are so glad you are here! Please fill out one of the small cards in the pew rack and hand it to an usher so we can get to know you better.

Music for the 10:15 am worship service is streamed with permission under ONELICENSE #A-736322.

Join us online for worship this morning! Join us at 10:15 a.m. on Facebook Live (you do NOT need a Facebook account) – <https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>. **Join us on** Mondays for Morning Prayer at 9:30 am, also livestreamed on Facebook at the same link.

Lenten Bible Study: next Sunday we'll conclude our Lenten Bible study, using the text *Lent: A Season of Repentance and Renewal* by Esau McCaulley as our guide. We meet via Zoom at 12:30 pm with Meeting ID: 815 4332 7235; Passcode: 982548.



Town Hall on Capital Projects. THIS MORNING, immediately following the 10:15 am service in the parish hall, we will host an informational Town Hall, as part of coffee hour, on Capital/Major Projects for our building and grounds. Our Capital Committee, a subcommittee of our Vestry, has been working since the fall on

identifying and vetting major projects toward repairing and/or improving our building and grounds, including making the building more accessible for people with mobility issues. We will share what work has already been done in the last year and share work that has been done to gather information on other projects that might be done. **The Capital Committee very much wants to hear from you; this gathering is not only to share information, but to gather it from our parish.** What questions do you have? What concerns might you want to share? What projects might you desire to champion that your Capital Committee or Vestry have not yet identified. Please, please come and share the time with us as we move forward building up our future together.

Stations of the Cross. Join us on Fridays of Lent at 5:30 pm, for an exploration of the ancient form of prayer and worship known as The Stations of the Cross. The Stations were said in the medieval world when a pilgrim could not journey to Jerusalem to walk the way of Jesus, the Stations of the Cross. We will gather each Friday in Lent to pray a beautiful set of prayers combining “The Stations of the Cross” found in the St. Augustine Prayer Book and a beautiful poem written for our Stations by Dianne Antos. We use, as our focus of prayer, 14+ beautiful stations done in various art mediums by members of our own parish. If you have never experienced this time of beauty, repentance, prayer, and grace – or if you have come in the last two years we have held this time as sacred – join us and be blessed.



Lenten series on Wednesdays of Lent – Matthew’s Gospel: Healing,

parables, & storytelling: Matthew’s Gospel has a deep desire to show us that Jesus healed through exorcising demons, touching and blessing the sick and needy. Jesus’ teaching through parable is a form of healing, too. Jesus ministers to us and grows us as His disciples by deepening our understanding of who He is and how He saves us. **Continuing on Wednesdays, March 18th and 25th,** all are invited to explore a portion of Jesus’ witness in the Gospel of Matthew. With our intern, Lee Febos, Fr. George leads any curious about Christ’s power to heal and teach, beginning with an overview of Chapter 8 in the Gospel of Matthew, in which Jesus heals, teaches, and exorcizes demons. **We begin each night with soup and salad at 5:30 pm, and then continue until around 7 pm with conversation, questions, and perhaps a new perspective on Matthew.**





Faith & Fries! On Tuesday, March 24th, from 7–8:30 pm you are invited to join us for *Faith and Fries* at Puente American-Latino Pub at 81 Main Street in Unionville. Come for dinner, have a drink or snack, whatever is comfortable for you. For March, we invite folks to share their experience of beauty. How does beauty shape our lives? What is your idea of beauty? Where does faith in God and beauty inform each other? Express each other? Coexist? We invite all to come as they are able and please, feel free to invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker! Call the church with questions.

Candy donation request for Easter Egg Hunt: Easter is approaching and we are preparing for our annual children's egg hunt which takes place on the parish lawn immediately following the 10:15 am Easter service. This has always been a colorful and joyous occasion for our children! We typically have some of our youth volunteer to hide eggs during service for the younger children. We also ask for volunteers to help fill hundreds of plastic eggs with candy the week prior. **But first, WE NEED CANDY!** If you are interested in donating candy for this event, please bring bags of Easter candy to the parish kitchen and label it with "for Easter" so it doesn't get used otherwise. We appreciate jelly beans, wrapped chocolates, and candy small enough to fit into the typical plastic eggs. If you have questions or interested in volunteering for egg filling, please reach out to Brigitte Cadigan at 707.799.3572. Thank you!



Dominican Mission fundraiser! We are running our envelope fundraiser again for April's mission to the Dominican Republic. On the parish hall kiosk are envelopes labeled \$1 to \$100. Please take one (or two), place the designated amount in the envelope, and place it in the offering plate or bring it (or mail it) to the parish office. Last year we raised \$5,000 (!!!), which we can only do if every envelope is taken. Will you help us? If you have questions about our mission to the Dominican Republic, please see Fr. George.

Altar of Repose: On Maundy Thursday (April 2nd), following our 7 pm service and the Stripping of the Altar, our Lord lies in repose, in the Blessed Sacrament, in the Melissa Jane Inrig Memorial Chapel from the moment the service is over until the following morning at 7 am. We traditionally have sign up times, where people come in person and sit an hour with Jesus during this time, memorializing the first night he spent in the tomb. **All are invited to sign up for a time on the parish hall ramp bulletin board.** Multiple people can sign up for any time slot, but it is the late night (2, 3, 4 am) slots that are more challenging to fill. Materials for prayer and reflection are available in the chapel, so that you may pass the Holy Hour faithfully. A brief, special time of prayer will be held in the Chapel at 7 am on Good Friday morning to conclude the Vigil.

The story of our salvation is held between Palm Sunday and Easter.

There will, accordingly, be a full complement of services during Holy Week, beginning on Palm Sunday, March 29th. We have traditionally asked folks to read various parts during the several services of Holy Week. To read at a service, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/StJHolyWeek26> We ask that you sign up for **one** service at this time so that we may offer the openings to as many folks as wish to take part. Fr. George will send you the section/reading you will be responsible for based on what you sign up to read.



The lectionary readings for next Sunday, March 22nd are:
Ezekiel 37:1–14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6–11; John 11:1–45.

Safety Committee forming: In an effort to provide the safest environment possible for everyone in our parish we are starting a Safety Committee. This committee will work together to develop a Church Safety Plan which will include response to violent events, fire and evacuation safety, first aid, and other topics. Everyone with an interest in improving the safety of our church, or a background in safety-related fields is invited to come to the **first meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 pm**. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Bullard at 860-673-6444.



Special note for Palm Sunday: On Sunday, March 29th Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday – as part of our regular Sunday worship we will gather to celebrate Christ's entry into Jerusalem and read the Passion story. We commemorate this with a special procession beginning at the corner of High Street and Mountain Road (for the 10:15 service only; we will gather outside the church for the 8 o'clock service). We will sing, wave our Palm fronds, and march as with Christ as we come to the Church. Please gather at the High Street corner at 9:45 a.m. as we will process together with First Church folks.

A Lenten Prayer written by John Baptiste:

Oh God, You have presented yourself in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins. Jesus suffered a magnitude we could never endure.

As sinful people, we must give thanks to Jesus for the pardoning of our sins, and for being able to return to God in repentance.

We thank you Lord Jesus Christ for your sacrifice and love, for when we feel the pain of sin, we think of your suffering on the cross, and we return to God through your love. Amen.

Easter Memorial Fund: God conquered death on Easter. Christ's rising from the tomb makes all the difference in the world because it trumpets the Good News that we matter, that we will always matter, that God is with us in life and in death. Easter is, then, a particularly appropriate time to remember loved ones who have died by giving flowers in their memory.



Any contribution is welcome, a gift of **\$40** or more is asked to cover the expense of the Easter flowers. **Names of memorials and gifts received by Monday, March 30th will be listed in the Easter bulletins**, and we will pray for those remembered throughout the Paschal season. Please use the form below to designate your gift. Make checks payable to *St. James Parish* marked "Easter Flowers". Thank you for your generosity.

Please print the info as you want it listed in the bulletin.

In memory of _____

OR

In thanksgiving for _____

Given by _____

MISSION STATEMENT

We welcome all to worship and nurture spiritual growth through faith, grace and reason.

We reach out to those in need as a caring community & live Christ's teaching to love one another.

COMMUNION IN THIS CHURCH

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table in the Episcopal Church. If you are visiting, and have received Communion in your own parish, then please share in the sacrament with our parish. Gluten-free hosts are available. If you are not baptized, you are welcome to ask for a blessing.

GUESTS

A cordial welcome to St. James Parish. Please fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack and place it in the collection box or hand it to an usher. We invite you to sign our guest book as you leave the church. Scan this QR code to access our website for more information about St. James Parish.

THE CHURCH IS ALWAYS OPEN FOR PRAYER & MEDITATION

The Parish Office is open Monday–Friday, 9 am–2 pm.
Sunday worship services are held at 8 am (Rite 1) and 10:15 am (Rite 2).

