St. James Parish

WITH ST. MARK'S MINISTRIES

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Father George C. Roberts, *Rector*

Blake Hansen, *Director of Music*
Cheryl Rusczyk, *Admin., St. Mark's Ministries*
Kim McLaurin, *Nursery Supervisor*

Pamela Sheehy, *Parish Administrator*
Ray Smith, *Sexton*
Brian Spooner, Bookkeeper

OFFICERS

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

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

VESTRY

2026	2027	2028
Kathy Bullard	Linda Mason	David Hrdlicka
Doug McDowell	Ed Preneta	Carol Kirkwood
Molly Sherman	David Tompkins	Michael Slusarz

First Sunday of Advent — November 29, 10:15 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE 2

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

◆Hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (v 1-3, 8*)* Hymnal 56

The Word of God

◆Lighting of the Advent Wreath BCP pg. 109

◆*Kyrie* Hymnal (front section) S96

◆Collect of the Day *(Contemporary, in unison*) see insert

First Reading Isaiah 64:1–9

Psalm 80 1–7, 16–18, (*responsively, the People in* ***bold***) see insert

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3–9

◆HYMN Sequence *Creator of the Stars of Night* (v 1–2) Hymnal 60

◆The Holy Gospel Mark 13:24–37

◆HYMN Sequence *Creator of the Stars of Night* (v 3–4) Hymnal 60

The Sermon Father George Roberts

The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358

◆The Prayers of the People

Please respond: Hear our prayer

Let us pray for the Church and for the world
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name maybe united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit especially, Tim Roy, David G, Sophie Currin, David Gable, Andrew D., Steven Patizzi, Gerry, Peter M., Abe, Bruce, Nina, John Newton, Wylder, Phil, Bill, Lisa Vallee, Danielle Harris, John M., Brian, Robert Pizzanello, Heather, Laurent, Tom, Molly Magro, Lori Roy. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

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.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP pg. 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory *A Simple Song,* from Mass, by Leonard Bernstein

◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3) Hymnal 380

∗The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A BCP pg. 367

∗*Sanctus* Hymnal (front section) S130

∗The Lord's Prayer BCP pg. 364

∗Agnes Dei (Lamb of God) Hymnal (front section) S164

∗The Breaking of the Bread BCP pg. 364

Gluten-free hosts are available.

Communion Hymns: WLP 721, 53, 51

◆Postcommunion Prayer BCP 366

Announcements

Blessing

◆HYMN *Jesus Came, Adored by Angels* Hymnal 454

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.
WLP refers to *Wonder, Love, & Praise*, found in the pew book rack.

Serving this week

Crucifer		Chloe Roberts
Altar Guild	8:00 a.m.	Barbara Hess
	10:15 a.m.	Joyce Bettencourt
Chalicists	8:00 a.m.	Jerry Hess
	10:15 a.m.	Chandler Howard
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Jay Hostetter
	10:15 a.m.	Dona Waugh
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Kim & Dave Faubert
	10:15 a.m.	Michael DeNegris & Tim Milligan
Welcomer	10:15 a.m.	Anna Whilby
Coffee Hour Host		Dave Schosky
Care Ministry / Altar Flower delivery		Susan Rubin
Vestry Keyholder		Bonnie Suddell

Today's altar flowers are given to celebrate the blessing of Mia's 27th birthday.
~Felicia DeDomincis & Gary Flynn



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

Our Monday Morning Prayer 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.

Wednesday mid-day service: You are invited to join us for in-person Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing in Chapel (behind the choir seating) at 11:30 am. Immediately following the service, you are invited to stay for lunch (bring your own lunch – brownbag or something to warm up) and time for conversation in the parish hall.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, December 6th are Isaiah 40:1–11
Psalm 85: 1–2, 8–13; 2 Peter 3:8–15a; Mark 11:1–8.



Greening of the Church December 20th after 10:15 service. Wear comfortable cloths. We are looking for volunteers to come help hang greens, wreaths and decorate the windows, all while enjoying fellowship and creating a glorious welcome for the Christmas season. If you are going to join us, please bring some clippers for trimming greens. We are also in need donations of fresh greens for the windowsills.



Annual Appeal for Stewardship: We hope that you have been actively engaging God in conversation about your gift to our Annual Appeal for the continuing life and ministry of St. James. **Please fill out your pledge card and return it as promptly as possible. Thank you to those who have already done so!** As of Tuesday, November 24th, we have received 75 pledges totaling $281.000 with a goal of $381,000. **If you pledged for 2027 and requested giving envelopes, the boxed envelope sets will be available in the narthex (church entryway) beginning December 15th.**





Bible Study Bible Study Today, the first Sunday of Advent, going through the 4th Sunday of Advent (December 20), our Bible Study group begins an exploration of major themes of the season with a book by Tish Harrison Warren called Advent: A Season of Hope. Warren, an Episcopal priest, explores the three comings of Jesus we celebrate during Advent. She declares, "Christians don't believe in on coming during Advent but in three." All are welcome to join and the books are already here (a $10 donation for the books is appreciated).



Lessons and Carols on December 19th at 6pm. **Save the date** See insert for more information. Please get the word out. We hope to have a good turnout for this festive Advent event.

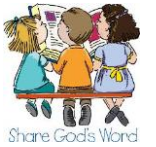


First Sunday Breakfast! On Sunday, December 6th, between the services, we will offer a delicious breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, and bacon with lots of coffee and juice available will be provided by the Men's Group. A wonderful time for fellowship and community! Join us.



Coffee Hour 2027 A new sign-up sheet can be found on the bulletin board leading into the church hall.

Church School Join us on Sunday, December 6, for our next First Sunday Breakfast. We will also welcome St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, who will come to tell some stories to children and adults alike and we will commemorate St. Nicholas Day in Church School, as well.





St. Nicholas comes to visit! On Sunday, December 6, St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, will come for a visit to St. James at the end of the 10:15 am service. He will tell some stories and have some things to share. Church School will be held on this date as well, so children kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to spend some special time learning about St. Nicholas.
First Sunday breakfast will also take place on this special day between the services! Come and join for the fun as we will be continuing the Advent season.

Angel Tree for Friendship Service Center & Farmington Community Services

St. James Outreach Ministry asks you to help provide Christmas gifts to approximately 20 individuals from the Friendship Service Center and 8-10 children from Farmington Community Services. Angel ornaments, representing each individual, are on a Christmas tree in the narthex. Please select one or more one or more green or red ribboned white Angel ornaments, sign your name on the corresponding sign-out chart, purchase an appropriate Christmas gift(s) for your chosen recipient, and return the gift *unwrapped* to the Parish Hall with the ornament attached as the gift tag. Each recipient was asked to list several items that they are hoping for. It is *not* expected that all items on the tag will be donated. You can choose to fulfill all items (alone or partnered with friends at church) or just one or two items. This is a wonderful opportunity for St James to share joy with those in need in our community. **The deadline for gifts is NOON on MONDAY, December 14th**. If you have any questions, please see Dona Waugh or Linda Larkin. Thank you very much!



Women's Ministry

December 1, 2026, 11am Coffee at the Parish Hall



Join your women friends for coffee and treats, hang out and talk, enjoy a conversation with some of your Besties! Feel free or not to bring a small dish to share with others. See you then!

December 5, 2026, Theater Opportunity



Thank you to Dianne Antos for suggesting a group activity for Playhouse on Park in West Hartford, CT to go see All is Calm, the Christmas Truce of 1914. Ticket prices are $38.50 - 58.50. The show runs from Dec 2 - Dec 27. A date has not yet been chosen - STAY TUNED! The plot: The Western Front, Christmas, 1914. Out of the violence arose a silence, then a song. Amid the combat, a German soldier steps into No Man's Land singing "Stille Nacht." Thus begins an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music, and peace. A remarkable true story told in the words and songs of the men who lived it. For those who have already For those who have already RSVP'd, we have purchased a block tickets. If you have not signed up and want to go, please reach out to the theater for tickets (860-523-5900). We want you to join us and see this wonderful show!



December 16, 2026, 7pm, Holiday Cookie Ministry

We will gather on the 16th in the Parish Hall to pack tins with cookies and **cards we will make with our own Marge Litteral.** These will go to those at the Prudence Crandall Center apartments (delivered by Dianne Anntos) and to our shut-ins (which you may volunteer for that evening). Please find a sign up at the entrance into the Parish Hall. Please come and help pack cookies for our homebound parishioners and for women at the Prudence Crandall Center. Thank you to the 15 women who have signed up to bake.

We will also need volunteers to help deliver to our homebound parishioners. Those cookies will be given to those wanting to do that the evening of the 16th. Everyone is invited to come and help with this important ministry. For more information contact Nancy Thompson, npthompson@live.com

Thank you for Attending the Women's Retreat!

All that came to the retreat had a fun time. It was an opportunity that brought rejuvenation and strengthened bonds of friendship. We thank you for coming and a special thanks to Kathy Bullard for pulling all of this together and to Rev. Canon Rebekah Bokros Hatch for leading us in deep thought, scripture, prayer and communion. If you didn't get to attend look for more opportunities to join in with the Women's Ministry in future events – it's never too late to make a new friend and have fun while doing it!



Annual Outreach Meeting will be held after the 10:15 Service on Sunday, December 6, 2026. At this meeting we will review our Outreach Efforts to determine if they are still in line with our priorities and people's needs. Additionally, we will determine the recipients of St James' Outreach contributions for 2026. Everyone with an interest in Outreach is invited to this very important meeting



Altar Flower 2027 A new sign-up poster is now in the narthex



The Men's breakfast will be on the 3rd Saturday of December, December 19 at 8 am at the Crazy Pancake, 17 Whiting, Plainville. Fr. George will be away the previous weekend. A little holiday breakfast cheer less than a week before Christmas.

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 narthex 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 AND 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).