

St. James' E-pistle

Date of Sunday Service: February 25, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent

Pulpit Notes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This **Sunday, February 25**, The Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool will confirm Jeffrey Fishwick and Jillian Foster. She will also preside over the reaffirmation of faith of Eric and Tammy Zavadil.

This is exciting stuff! Every time someone chooses to step up and say, "I want to go deeper" or "I want to recommit" or "This is the life I choose," it is a big deal. It is a mature statement not only of faith but of intention to live a certain way.

You may not remember what promises a confirmand (or person reaffirming faith) makes. They are not insignificant:

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will, with God's help.

People I will, with God's help.

Actually, these are promises YOU make, too. Not just when you were confirmed (assuming you were) but every time anyone else is baptized or confirmed. These are the promises we make over and over again. These are what it means to be a Christian.

It includes making ourselves educated. Never stopping our study, because it's a big world, and you can only learn so much at a time - but your responsibility to learn never ends. This is especially true when it comes to things we would rather not know about.

It also means worshiping together. Regularly, faithfully. And praying for each other and for strength and courage to do God's will.

It means monitoring our lives in relationship to God. Are we following? Are we stumbling? Do we need help? Lent is the season of self-examination and repentance, but the need for it is ongoing and eternal.

It means sharing our faith using both our words and our actions. This can not be understated: we are responsible for making our faith known in every aspect of our lives.

And it follows with the next promise we make: to seek and serve Christ in all people. This is especially hard. Always has been. Social media makes it appear even harder - but that's the world we live in, and to avoid it is to hide from who we are: beacons of hope, love, and light in a world that will always have plenty despair, hate, and darkness.

This has always required looking out for the best interests of your neighbors, seeking justice, feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger. It's hard. But the rewards are great! Our rewards for following Jesus are a sense of God's presence and love, an assurance that God will never let us go, and an awareness that our lives have a great purpose.

So this Sunday, I urge you to be on hand, to welcome Bishop Glasspool, to support your brothers and sisters, and to renew your own faith. Never an easy road to travel, it is the brightest, most gracious road on the map.

Grace and Peace,

Chuck +

Luncheon Notice:

Following the 10 AM Service Sunday, there will be a luncheon to honor Bishop Glasspool and the candidates. Please join us! There will be **NO** Lenten Breakfast that day. Lenten Breakfasts resume March 4.

Please fill out the ATTENDANCE QUESTIONNAIRE!

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Matthew 18:20

You are a member of St. James', and we are blessed to have you. Your presence is crucial to the life of this parish. When parishioners come together, everyone's life is made more joyful, fuller and in general better.

In our ongoing effort to increase attendance by current members, we would like to ask you a few questions. Please take this seriously and answer as honestly as you wish. You may include your name or not - that is up to you. If you do, your answers will be held in strictest confidentiality, though the general information will be collated for parish consideration.

No matter how often you attend, we want to hear what keeps you away or keeps you coming back.

Thank you in advance for your help understanding what is needed to advance the work of the gospel.

- 1 How long have you attended St. James'? _____
- 2 On average, how regularly did you attend over the past 12 months?
___ Weekly ___ Biweekly ___ Monthly ___ Bimonthly ___ Less often
- 3 Was this more than, less than, or about the same as the previous year?
___ More ___ Less ___ About the same

- 4 If you attended **less** this year, to what do you attribute this? *Check as many as apply and use as much space as you need to elaborate on any point:*
 Work Sports Travel Health Family complexities
 Anger at the rector Anger at other parish leadership Anger at the Episcopal Church
 Music quality Sermon quality Sunday School size Loss of Faith Other
- 5 If you attend **more**, to what do you attribute that? *Check as many as apply and use as much space as you need to elaborate on any point:*
 Health Family Seeking Closer Relationship with God Good Fellowship
 Music quality Sermon quality Sunday School size
 Other
- 6 Answering as honestly as you can, what would make you attend more? We will leave this open for you to answer as you choose, but it can range from “Nothing” to small changes like “Need a ride,” to significant things like “Change in leadership.”
- 7 If there is anything you feel needs to be said that is not addressed here but needs to be said, please let us know.

Name (optional) _____

Announcements

Free Prayer Friday:

Join me each **Friday in Lent** from approximately 11:00 AM to 12:00 (or later) at Cranberry's for FREE PRAYER FRIDAY. It is an outreach in which I, and anyone who chooses to join me) sit with a sign that says, "Free Prayer." It is an invitation for those who need prayer to come up and talk. I have done this a few times and found it very effective in attracting conversation and, yes, prayer.

Lenten Meditation Booklet Is Available!

Hot off the press, we got the Lenten Meditation booklet out to those who attended the 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday service. Now, you can pick up *your* Lenten Meditation book this Sunday. As always, I also send out each day's meditation via email. If you are not receiving it and would like to, please contact me. Thanks!

A PLEDGE PLEA:

If you have not pledged yet, please do so. Letters will go out next week from the Vestry to remind you about your pledge. Please help!

Are You Getting the Episcopal New Yorker?

If you're not receiving the *Episcopal New Yorker*, the quarterly magazine of our Diocese, email Andrew Gary at agary@dioceseny.org with your name, mailing address, and the name of the congregation where you are a member. You'll receive the newspaper four times per year. It's that simple to keep up on news of the Diocese and read Engaging yet challenging articles about our faith.

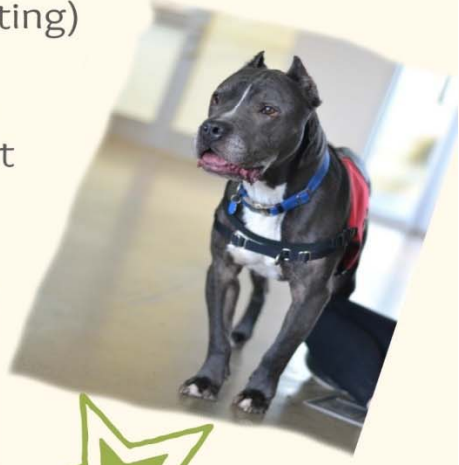
Become An Acolyte:

Whatever your age, if you want to become an acolyte, we will make a place for you. If you attend Sunday School, we will work to make sure you don't miss too much!



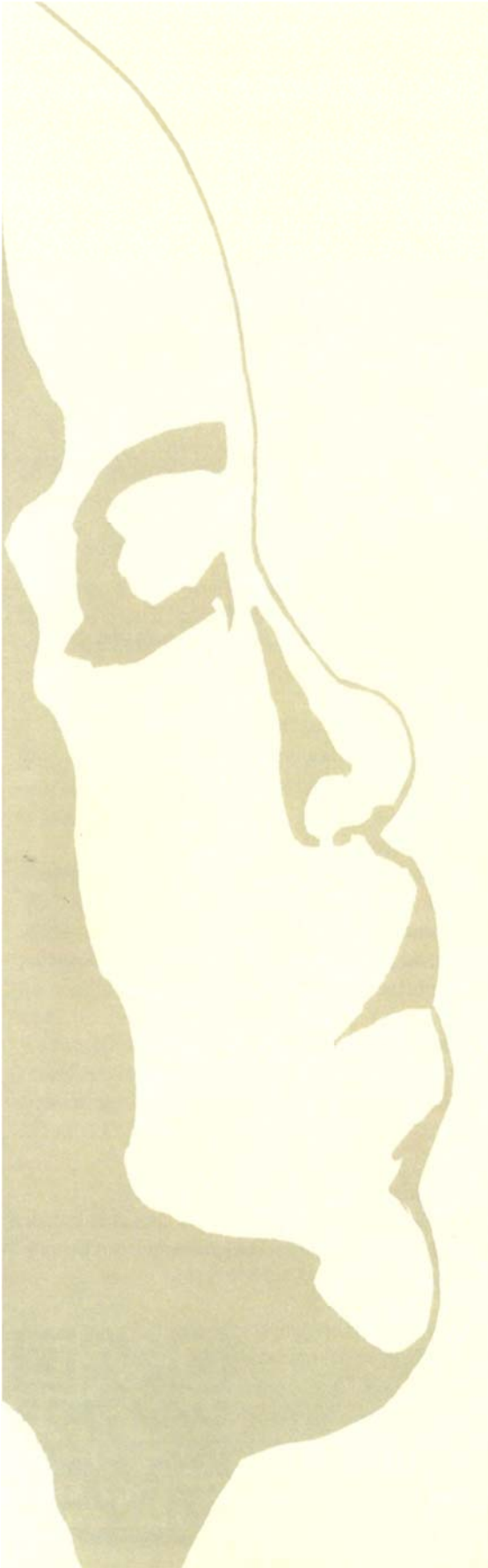
We are collecting the following items for the Dutchess County SPCA:

- Purina Dog Chow *Natural*
- Purina Cat Chow
- Dog Treats (any kind, just super yummy)
- Cat Treats (any kind of yummy treats)
- Canned Cat and Dog Food (any kind)
- Dog Toys
- Cat Toys
- Dog Collars with Metal Buckles (all sizes)
- Bleach (basic disinfecting)
- Paper Towels
- Dawn Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent



636 Violet Avenue
Hyde Park, NY 12538
845-452-7722
www.dcsPCA.org





A
New York
Lamentation

A Play About Slavery in New York

Presented by

The Episcopal Diocese of New York
As it observes a *Year Of Lamentation* for
the Church's culpability in the
enslavement of God's children

Performances

January 21, Christ Church, Staten Island

March 4, Christ Church, Poughkeepsie

September 23, St. Philip's, Harlem

October 14, St. Bartholemew's, White Plains

All performances begin at 3:00 PM

February 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 3 pm Youth Group	19 Office Closed 6 PM Women's Group @ Coppola's	20 7 PM Vestry	21 10 AM Morning Prayer 2 PM Eucharist at HP Assisted Living 7:00 PM Inquirers	22 11 AM Bible Study 3:30 PM Reading Adventures	23 11 AM Free Prayer Friday @ Cranberry's	24
25 Episcopal Visitation with Confirmations	26 7:30 PM Choir Practice	27	28 10 AM Morning Prayer			
Sundays: Holy Eucharist Rite I is at 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II (with music) is at 10:00 AM. Sunday School and nursery are available at 10:00 AM. Between Service Classes on Sundays are from 9:15 to 9:45 in the Wilks Room.						

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Please pray for these diocesan ministries this week. If you want to check out the entire year's calendar for intercession, it's simple to find - go to <https://www.diocesen.org/administration/for-clergy/liturgical-and-sacramental/diocesan-calendar-of-intercession/>

February

- 25 St. Thomas' Church, New Windsor
- 26 Church of St. Andrew, Staten Island
- 27 St. James' Episcopal Church, Hyde Park
- 28 Education for Ministry Programs in the Diocese

March

- 1 St. John's-in-the-Wilderness, Stony Point
- 2 Corporation for the Relief of Clergy Widows and Orphans

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

John Bohlmann, Helen Braun, Mariel Carter, Joann Clark (recovery from surgery), Linkin Ewalt, Loretta Falzarano (sister of Donna Beyer), Heather Francese, Kathy Ganim, Karla Givison (Deb Belding's sister), Robert Guariglia, Harold Hall, Dalton K., Edie Kline, Ashley Konyn, Tedi Kramer, Hope Jennings, Rosemary Leuken, Joanne Lynn, Doris Mack, Gordon Mackenzie, Virginia Mackenzie, Andrew Mendelson, Beth and Ginero Milano, Lillian Peralta, Mary Bowers Peters (stroke), Grace Plass, Deborah Porach, John Robinson, Rob Robinson, Jason Rodino (serving in Afghanistan), Pat Rooney, John Ross, James Sheeky, Naomi Sleight, Carl Smith, Marguerite Spratt, Janice Syedullah, Tracy, Georgia Verven, Candace Vincent, Cassidy Way, Cliff Wells and Shawn Wheeler.

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Bill Holland

Schedules

A Note about Schedules: The names you see below are those listed on their respective schedules. There are often times when, due to sickness or travel, substitutes are asked to fill in or trade positions. This will probably NOT be reflected in the lists below—so, if there is an inconsistency between what you see here and what you see on Sunday, that is all right.

Birthdays (this past week):	Deborah Belding, Elizabeth Gabel, Meg Connolly-Burkhardt, Tadgh O'Halloran and Stephanie Barkoe
Birthdays (this coming week):	Regina Ardini, Charlessa Thatcher and David Foote
Acolytes:	February 25: Kirstin Horn and Amelia McNamara March 4: Nancy Montero and Jaylen Thatcher
Altar Guild:	February 25: Team I March 4: Team I
8 a.m. Readers:	February 25: Debbie Belding and Sue DeLorenzo March 4: Julett Butler and Jim Smyth
10 a.m. Readers:	February 25: Wilma Tully and Bobbie Wells March 4: Wendy Urban-Mead and Deirdre Mae Micker
Ushers:	February 25: Patty Drake and Bobbie Wells March 4: Patty Drake and Bobbie Wells

Pledge Clerks: February 25: Andy Hall and Dean Caswell
March 4: Joanne Lown and Sue DeLorenzo

Parish Cycle of Prayer: February 25: Gordon and Virginia MacKenzie
March 4: Jim and Beth Matranga, Glenn May and Charles Faverio

Coffee Hour Hosts: February 25: Reception for Bishop Glasspool (no Lenten Breakfast)
March 4: Lenten Breakfast

This Week's Lectionary

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:22-30
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

This Week's Hymns

Processional: 473 - "Lift High The Cross"
Sequence: 144 - "Lord Jesus, Sun of Righteousness"
Offertory: "Fall, Slow Tears"
Communion: 636 - "How Firm A Foundation"
Recessional: 145 - "Now Quit Your Care"

Last Week's Sermon

Sermon Preached on First Sunday in Lent (February 18, 2018)

"Our 40"

Usually, I have a written text for each week's sermon. Last Sunday, however, I took a chance and preached without having written a thing. Rest assured, I spent many a night working it out in my mind, but I wanted to stand before you without any written backup.

You can listen to the recorded sermon which is, as always, available as indicated below.

NOTE: Audio recordings of some sermons are now available on St. James' website, www.stjameshydepark.org Look under "Worship"