

St. James' E-pistle

Date of Sunday Service: August 25, 2019

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Pulpit Notes

There are no Pulpit Notes this week given that Fr. Chuck is on vacation.

Note that the organ (following completion of mold abatement) will be played on Sunday.

If you have anything to add to the E-pistle, please contact either Fr. Chuck, Dyan in the Parish Office, or Brian Rance. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday evening. Thanks!

Announcements

Graveyard Tours

The 2019 Graveyard Tours will be held on October 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19th. There will be three shows per night. Tickets will go on sale on September 1st. We will be asking for volunteers to serve as tour guides, sweepers, parking attendants, etc.

Between Service Class to Resume. Next Series: "Who Needs Creeds?"

Several folks have asked when the between service classes will resume. Well, here they are! Starting **September 15 at 9:15 AM in the Wilks Room**, we will have a series called **"Who Needs Creeds?"** Designed to address if not necessarily answer questions about whether the Creeds are necessary, this series will give some history and theology but leave plenty of room for open and frank discussion. What does it mean to say you believe something? Is it necessary to state it in public? What if you're not sure what you believe? If you have ever asked any of these questions (or are asking them now), this series is for you.

Acolyte Training:

I'm pleased to announce that several folks have expressed interest in learning more about becoming an acolyte! Training will be **Sunday, September 1, after the 10:00 AM service**. If you can't make either of these sessions but want to acolyte, let Fr. Chuck know, and we'll set up an alternate training session.

St. James' Women's Group

The Women's Group will meet in the back room of Antonella's in Hyde Park at 6:00pm on:

9/23

10/28

11/25

The Christmas Tea Party will be held on December 8th at 3pm at Cranberry's!

Reading Adventures Gearing Up:

Believe it or not, it's almost Back To School time. And with that comes Reading Adventures! We will re-start the program in October, but we want to line up our volunteers as soon as possible. If you would like to be a volunteer this year, please contact Fr. Chuck at your earliest convenience. It's one of the most effective and rewarding programs you can be part of, and it only takes an hour a week.

RISE FOR REFUGE

In the narthex of the church you may have noticed a small sign **Rise for Refuge** reminding us as followers of Jesus Christ that we are a nation of refuge and not rejection. Welcoming the stranger in our midst goes back to the time of Abraham. Welcoming the stranger has deep roots in our faith.

Two or three weeks ago I was on my computer when I received three e-mails within thirty minutes of each other alerting me and others about an article published by Politico Pro revealing that the current administration is pressing to zero out refugee resettlement for 2020.

The alerts came from Church World Service, Refugee Point (based in Cambridge, MA) and Episcopal Migration Ministry all involved in refugee resettlement.

As some of you know, my daughter, Doreen, worked for over twelve years first with Church World Service and then with Refugee Point in refugee resettlement and knows first hand the challenges our refugee neighbors face every day. Doreen was based first in Nairobi, Kenya, then in Mozambique with her final two years in resettlement work in Johannesburg, South Africa. Her responsibilities took her to many refugee camps throughout eastern Africa. She will attest from first hand experience that the resettlement process is arduous and the vetting process can take up to three years before a person can enter our country as a refugee.

If this ban goes into affect, it will not only impact refugees seeking resettlement, it will impact refugees currently in the vetting process and will also impact families trying to reunite with one another.

Episcopal Migration Ministries, a ministry of the Episcopal Church is one of nine agencies responsible for resettling refugees in partnership with our government. As the Rev. Canon C. K. Robertson, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Ministry Beyond the Episcopal Church, stated, "We walk the way of love when we embrace the stranger and love our neighbor. Indeed, we believe that in welcoming the stranger, we are welcoming Jesus."

Over the past two years the current Administration has been reducing the number of refugees allowed into our country. In 2018, 22,000 refugees were resettled. So far in 2019, only 5,000 refugees have been resettled and at this rate, the target number of 30,000 for this year will not be met. By the way, 30,000 is the lowest number ever set by a President.

If this ban goes into effect, the US Refugee Resettlement program will collapse along with the humanitarian protection our country has built up over many decades amid the worst world-wide refugee crisis in history.

So what can we do. We need to **RISE FOR REFUGE** by contacting Senator Schumer, Senator Gillibrand and our Representative urging them to do everything in their power to end the Administration's attacks on refugees and to provide oversight on the US Refugee Admissions Program. Refugees are not a threat to our communities. Refugees are neighbors who need our welcoming arms so that they can begin to rebuild their lives.

Please prayerfully consider taking action by contacting members of Congress. Thank you.

Peace, Deacon Gail

August 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 Guest Celebrant: The Rev. Kevin Bean	26	27 6:30 Evening Prayer	28 NO Morning Prayer	29 NO BIBLE STUDY	30	31
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.						

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.diocesenyny.org/administration/for-clergy/liturgical-and-sacramental/diocesan-calendar-of-intercession/>

- 25 Pastoral Missioner to the Deaf
- 26 St. Ann's Church for the Deaf, Manhattan
- 27 Community of the Holy Spirit
- 28 St. Augustine's Church, Manhattan
- 29 Afterschool Programs of the Diocese
- 30 The Canon to the Ordinary
- 31 Cragmoor Stone Church

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Ashley, Joe Baldwin, John Bohlmann, Justin Bohlmann, Fr. Fred Cartier, Patty Caswell, Loretta Falzarano (sister of Donna Beyer), Heather Francese, Karla Givison (Deb Belding's sister), John and Gloria Golden, Kathy Graff, Robert Guariglia, Clifford Hallmark (father of Alyssa Raugalis), Dalton K., Edith Kline, Lynne Koch, Walter Koch, Ashley Konym, Hope Jennings, Rosemary Leuken, Lorraine, Joanne Lynn, Jim Lynn (Carol Bender's brother - facing surgery), Doris Mack, Margaret, Andrew Mendelson, Beth and Ginero Milano, Lillian Peralta, Grace Plass, Deborah Porach, John Robinson, Rob Robinson, Jason Rodino (serving in Afghanistan), John Ross, Hank Schroeder, James Sheeky, Naomi Sleight, Carl Smith, Marguerite Spratt, Janice Syedullah, Tracy, Georgia Verven, Candace Vincent, Cassidy Way, Cliff Wells and Shawn Wheeler.

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): Vince Asher, Amelia McNamara, Shirley Ferris, Liz Granados, Scott Pitcher and Jeffrey E. Pardee

Birthdays
(this coming week): Christopher Santos, Liz Van Wagner and Sharan Alessandra

Acolytes:
August 25: Nancy Montero
September 1: TBA

Altar Guild:
August 25: Team III
September 1: Team III

8 a.m. Readers:
August 25: Lucille Ogden and Jim Smyth
September 1: Deb Belding and Lynne Koch

10 a.m. Readers:
August 25: Eric Zavadil and Nancy Montero
September 1: Wendy Urban-Mead and Deirdre Mae Micker

Ushers:
August 25: Nancy Montero and Anna-Marie Pitcher
September 1: Andy Hall and Tonya Hall

Pledge Clerks:
August 25: Andy Hall and Dean Caswell
September 1: Joanne Lown and Sue DeLorenzo

Parish Cycle of Prayer:
August 25: Dave and Chris Wardell, Pat Weber, Cliff and Bobbie Wells
September 1: Corey Whalen, Brian, Joanna, Julianna, Matthew and Christine Zocchi, Eric and Tammy Zavadil

Coffee Hour Hosts: August 25: Summer Break--No Coffee Hour
September 1: Audrey Horne, Eric Zavadil

This Week's Lectionary

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

This Week's Hymns

Processional: L 178 - Sweet Hour Of Prayer
Sequence: L 175 - Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen
Offertory: "WAR" (by Charles Jenkins) -- Sung by Spirit of Unity
Communion: "I Commit My Love to You" (by Twila Paris) -- Sung by Spirit of Unity
Recessional: 707 - Take My Life and Let It Be

Last Week's Sermon

Sermon Preached on Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Susan Auchincloss

There is no transcript of this sermon.

A WORD ABOUT RECORDED SERMONS:

Most weeks, I upload a recorded copy of the sermon onto my Facebook page as well as St. James' YouTube channel. I have not yet figured out how to upload them to the St. James' Facebook page but am working on it.

You can also listen to sermons by going to YouTube (www.youtube.com) and searching for "St. James Episcopal Church, Hyde Park, NY". There, you will not only find sermons, but also videos of the Fireside Chats and other videos of interest. You can subscribe to that page, and then when new content is uploaded, you will receive a notification.

SERMON VALUATION FORM

It is not necessary to take notes during the sermon. Rather, you can take some time afterwards to recollect the sermon and its effect on you. Give yourself a few minutes for each of the questions. If you choose to share this with the preacher, it can be a powerful aid to better preaching - but this is not a form to be handed to the preacher and forgotten. It is an aid for you, so you can speak directly with the preacher and answer follow-up questions.

1. WHAT ARE YOU STILL HEARING?

That is, without evaluating it, what are the words or phrases from the sermon that are still echoing in your ears? Are there any "ear worms"?

2. WHERE MIGHT THIS BE LEADING?

As a listener, where does this sermon lead you? What does it invite you to? What are the next steps in your faith that might arise from this sermon?

3. HOW DOES THIS SERMON "PLAY"?

That is, how is it organized or ordered? What steps has the preacher taken you through? What structure did you notice in this sermon? What has it asked you to do?

4. HOW MIGHT THIS SERMON "GROW"?

That is, what suggestions would you have to hone the message of this sermon, to make it more engaging, inspiring, logical, fleshed out... No sermon is ever entirely done; its themes will be revisited over time. What would help the next time be more compelling?