

Inside this edition.

REFLECTIONS ON DISCERNMENT



LIVING LENT P. 10-12



LENT & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE P. 7



EVENTS CALENDAR P. 16

THE LESS SAID

A Quarterly Newsletter of The Episcopal Church of St. James the Less



Labyrinth from Lookout Point Lakeside Inn in Hot Springs, AR

Discernment.

Spiritual discernment is a powerful, informed and intentional effort to distinguish God's voice from other voices that influence us.

(From Grounded In God by Suzanne G. Farnham, et al.)

Recently I asked a group of parishioners to look back on their life and share something they were sure God had done. The responses were varied from being spared in a brush with death, to being drawn into working with an organization, to discovering an art studio to learn to paint, to meeting a future spouse, and to a feeling of being called into ministry.

What does it feel like when you know God is calling you, leading you, guiding you?

What does it feel like when you know God is calling you, leading you, guiding you?

Like a painter standing before a blank canvas with brush in hand, it can feel both exhilarating and overwhelming. We are both motivated and challenged when we are feeling drawn toward a new purpose, task, relationship, or even into deeper life with God.

Whether it is a new job, downsizing your home, the death of a spouse, or adding a new volunteer responsibility to your full week, life is always changing. Some growth feels positive some comes as a real downer. The role of spiritual discernment is to intentionally ask God in the midst of change: who is God asking me to be, what is God asking me to do, and what can I do to develop my love and trust in God?

In our lives, we have a lot of voices who want to weigh in on our decisions. We listen to informed voices of others. We listen to the voices of fear, necessity, and limitation. Spiritual discernment welcomes and listens for God's voice in the midst of the many others. God however, is not easy to hear.

Perhaps that is why there is so much emphasis right now in Christian writing on how to listen for God. Churches are finding themselves in challenging places. The challenges are from within and outside the church walls. Inside there is an aging population with different gifts and energy to share. Outside the walls there is a changed world in which the church is less and less the place people turn to for spiritual connection. We are challenged as

church in the 21st century yet we have so much to have faith in, as one writer put it...

God knows our deepest potential, sees the hidden complexities of our circumstances, comprehends our situation in relation to the larger picture, and grasps the broader implications of our plans. Discernment is our effort to tap into the flow of this divine wisdom. (from Grounded in God)

During Lent I invite you to learn about and practice discernment. I invite you to learn about it through books, retreat, listening to sermons, and joining in Thirty Worthy Minutes. I invite you to practice personally what you learn.

As a parish, we are in the midst of a corporate discernment. Naming and claiming a mission and vision statement for our future will help us focus our energy and gifts toward purposes that will enrich our life as a community and organize us to welcome new people into our life with God.

I welcome you to a holy Lent. May God bless you and enrich you during the forty days and bring you to deeper hope when we once again celebrate the gift of the Resurrection.

With you on the journey,

Lisa+



From the Deacon

“ It seems that God loves to invite us to make journeys. Because during the journey God teaches us, forms us, invites us to grow and change into the person God wants us to be.”

Br. Geoffrey, St. John the Evangelist



We are all on our individual journeys, and our parish is on a journey as well. This Lenten season, the topic we'll be learning about (and doing, I hope!) is discernment. It's also timely as we discern what the mission and vision of our parish will be going forward. It's all part of that journey that Br. Geoffrey is talking about- where *“God teaches us, forms us, invites us to grow and change into the **church** God wants us to be.”* (emphasis mine)

As in our personal discernment, we'll need help - and I'm sure that Lisa has some

important tools for us to use (and learn). We'll “need to go within”, and I offer you the quote below. It's been important to me as a guidepost in my journey, with particular focus on discernment. (Intriguing name, don't you think? I'll let you look him up- needless to say, he wrote extensively of the spiritual life!)

May God bless all of us and St. James the Less on our individual and common journeys.

- The Rev. Ron Valentine,

“Find a place in your heart,” implores Theophan the Recluse, “and speak there with the Lord. It is the Lord's reception room”.

From the Senior Warden

Since early January, your Vestry has been actively engaged in developing a process to bring renewed energy and mission to our parish community. Our first meeting together was a Vestry Retreat during which we considered the role of the Vestry to build on the strengths of our past as we work toward a sustainable and growing church for the future. The Retreat helped us to create a sense of common purpose and cohesion within the new Vestry.

In subsequent meetings, we focused on the need for a Vestry Mission Statement to define the Vestry identity and practices going forward. A Statement has now been completed and appears below. It expresses our desire for nurturing spiritual growth and creating opportunities for individual engagement in our community.

Your Vestry is now sponsoring a series of small group meetings beginning in mid-March and extending through May to provide each parishioner a means to offer

thoughts and hopes for renewal. Through these conversations, we can all be part of a discernment process which can lead us to understand God's will and guidance for our future.

As these small group meetings conclude, we look forward to an energetic and fun All - Parish event beginning with dinner on June 13 and extending through the day on June 14. We will seek to blend the imaginings and expectations of the small groups into a common parish vision which can then be recorded as a Mission Statement to guide our church for the next three to five years.

The next six months will be exciting times here at St James the Less. Your Vestry is hopeful that everyone will participate in this renewal process. Please contact me or any member of the Vestry if you have questions or concerns about these plans.

- John Stevens, Senior Warden

Vestry Mission Statement

We are committed members of our parish family. We honor and learn from the past. We are stewards of our community. We are attentive to the needs and concerns of our parishioners. We advance the future spiritual growth of St James the Less.

We support this parish and its clergy in nurturing spiritual growth, pastoral care, and Christian formation. We listen to our community and act in the best interests of our church. We manage the properties, financial assets, and physical resources.

We seek spiritual guidance for our planning. We embrace opportunities for parish engagement. We are building a process for sustainable growth, spiritual vitality, and greater community involvement.

Annual Meeting and Vestry Transitions



The Parish Annual Meeting was held on January 26 this year and was full of thanksgiving and celebration.

The parish thanked retiring vestry members, Kathy Roane and Katherine Carini, as well as retiring Senior Warden, Mary Saunders, for their faithful service. We also welcomed new vestry members: Denny Scully, Bert Getz, Jr., Kathleen Dewey, and Sally Neuert. John Stevens is now the Senior Warden and Nancy Whiteman is the new Junior Warden.

Lisa also thanked several volunteers for their service in various areas of parish life. First, she thanked Kathleen Cleven and Betsy Tracy for their faithful and continued work to ensure that a meal goes out once a month to “A Just Harvest,” a ministry that has been a vital part of this parish for 25 years. They have been instrumental in our work to feed people and nourish souls.

Next, she thanked John White for chairing the Churchyard Committee for 20 years. His ministry of extending respect to those who have died and hope to those who live on has beautifully and respectfully honored all who have been laid to rest.

Finally, Lisa gave thanks for Sue Babbs who established the Prayer Network this past year, in addition to many other ministries. She has helped our community to hold all those in need in prayer. This ministry functions as a 21st - century model of “praying without ceasing.”

The financial status of the parish was presented and the budget for 2014 was passed.

You may access an online PDF of our Annual Report and the special Collects written to thank volunteers on our website. Request a copy of the report by mail by calling the church office at (847) 446-8430.

Check us out on the web:

www.stjamestheless.org

Where you can RSVP for events, find worship schedules, announcements, and more!

+

Don't forget to “Like” us on

Music Notes

Maybe you've seen this quote before: "The word listen is spelled with the same letters as the word silent." 'Listen' and 'silent' are two words that perhaps do not come to mind when we think of music and worship, but I challenge you to think about this for a moment.

Here is a quote from an OLD choir newsletter that I wrote in April of 2003 as I was planning my senior recital in college. How far I have grown since then, and how fun to look back at the time when my discovery of the truth in singing was just beginning to be very exciting to me.

*"I suppose I have always thought that it is music that captures me, that makes me fall in love with a composition. But now, I'm beginning to think that the music is heard by my soul and the lyrics are heard by my heart. It is because the lyrics are truly meaningful to me that I love to sing these songs. So what does all this have to do with these two words, 'listen' and 'silent'? It has caused me to think more deeply about hymn singing. The words to one of my favorite hymns are: **'I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad. I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad'**. And I wonder, how many people have actually experienced these words as they were singing them? Sometimes I can hardly make it through a hymn without being overwhelmed by not only the melody, but also by the truth and beauty of the words. I encourage you to be silent and take time to listen to the words of scripture as they are artistically and masterfully expressed*



through hymnody. The effect that music has on our emotions can only be strengthened and heightened in the TRUTH when we understand and believe in the words we are singing."

I wanted to dig this article up because I think that we need to be very discerning about what we sing. How can we sing 'He has made me glad' on a morning when we feel nothing but pain and tiredness? Or how can we sing 'All to Jesus, I surrender' when we are thinking about our grocery list or even how much we don't really want to be singing right now? Sometimes, singing is that proverbial, and necessary, kick in the pants that we need in order to get in the right frame of mind. And other times, we need to "get right" with what we're about to sing before we sing it.

During lent, I am going to post my music plans on the board in the parish hall. I want you to see what is coming up. I want you to have the opportunity to look in the hymnal, or online, at the words that you'll be choosing to sing. I'd love to hear if and how this affects your worship, so please drop me an email or a note and let me know what you think!

- Anastasia Cameron Balmer,
Director of Music

Lent & Holy Week Worship Schedule

Ash Wednesday, March 5

- + 7:00-8:30 am & 3:30-5:30 pm - Ashes To Go. Drop by the church any time during these time slots for a short prayer and the Imposition of Ashes
- + 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II and Imposition of Ashes
- + 7:00 pm Prayer Service with the Imposition of Ashes and Choral Music

Palm Sunday, April 13 - *This liturgy enacts the story of Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem just prior to the crucifixion.*

- + 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Traditional language and hymns, with distribution of palm branches inside
- + 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist - This is a festive and moving choral service with a trumpet fanfare.

Maundy Thursday, April 17 - *This liturgy enacts the last supper in which Jesus washed the disciples feet and shared the bread and wine with them as his body and blood given for all. The liturgy ends in the Sanctuary. After communion the altar is ceremonially stripped of its adornments to symbolize the betrayal and abandonment of Jesus.*

- + 6:00 PM Supper - We gather for a simple meal in the Parish Hall.
- + 7:00 PM Eucharist - While still in the Parish Hall we read scriptures and offer prayers. Then we move into the Sanctuary for communion and the Stripping of the Altar.
- + 8:30 PM The Watch at the Altar of Repose - Participants sign up to pray at the church throughout the night for small periods of time, to sit with Christ as at the Garden of Gethsemane, in which Jesus prayed through the night before his crucifixion.

Good Friday, April 18- *On this day the church is adorned in black commemorating Jesus' death. Services are focused on prayer for the world, for all in need and for our own lives.*

- + 9:30 AM Holy Week for Children - Children will make bread, and have an interactive experience of Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection.
- + Noon Good Friday Liturgy - Moving prayers and homily, focused on the darkness of the world. Communion from the Reserve Sacrament.
- + 7:00 PM Good Friday Taizé Service - Moving prayers and contemplative music to show our gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice.

Easter Sunday, April 20 - *The Church is transfigured into a visual celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.*

- + 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Traditional language and hymns.
- + 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist - A festive choral Eucharist with Northside Brass, choir and organ.
- + 11:15 AM Fellowship & Easter Egg Hunt

Children's Ministry Update



Good grief, the program year is almost over!!!! It seems like it was just September last week. We have some exciting things to look forward to as the program year wraps up.

+ **March 4 - On Shrove Tuesday**, we will decorate and bury cardstock sheets with "Alleluia" printed on them. We have buried them outside by the altar before....it remains to be seen if we can get them out there this year!

+ **March 9 - Pajama Sunday**. We will celebrate Daylight Savings Time by having the kids come in their pajamas (makes it easier to get them to Church School when they don't have to get dressed after losing an hour's sleep). Children are encouraged to bring a lovey or favorite stuffed animal for a special blessing. Please brush your teeth!!!!

+ **March 16 - We have Heifer Sunday**. For our new people, Heifer International provides animals and animal husbandry instruction to people in Third World countries. The people raise their animals then sell the byproducts to other villagers. So, for example, a family with a cow would sell the milk or a family

having received chickens would sell the eggs. On Heifer Sunday, the church school children provide a special coffee hour with foods associated with the animals Heifer provides. So we have ham sandwiches (pigs), orange juice (trees), Swedish fish (fish), goat cheese and crackers (goats), etc. The parishioners then donate money for Heifer. We have raised about \$1200 each year and hope to do so this year as well.

+ **March 23, 30 and April 6** - There will be **no regular Church School** since these dates are **Spring Break weekends**. Northfield and Winnetka schools do not have the same week off as the Glenview and Northbrook schools do, hence the three Sundays off. There are no official classes any of those weeks but we will have something for the kids from 9:15 to 9:50am on March 23 and April 6 so come to church. Sermon Story Time will still occur all three Sundays.

+ **April 13 - Palm Sunday**. We will have classes that day and will process with our banners at the beginning of the service.

+ April 20 - Easter

Sunday. There will not be any classes that day but Sermon Story Time will still occur. The older kids will be preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt from 9AM to 9:50. The Hunt will take place immediately after the service. Since Easter is so late this year, we are hoping to have it outside. That's, of course, given the snow is gone by then....who knows about that!!!!



+ May 25 - This is Memorial Day and we will not have classes that day. However, Sermon Story Time will still be happening.

+ June 1 - This is the end of the program year. We will have our **annual parish picnic** that day. We hope to have lots of games for the kids and lots of food for everyone.

-Miriam Berry, Church School Director

SJTL Hosts the World Day of Prayer Service

Theme: "Streams in the Desert,"

Friday, March 7 at 10AM

Every first Friday in March, women, men and children in more than 170 countries and regions celebrate the World Day of Prayer (WDP). Services begin at sunrise in the Pacific and follow the sun across the globe on the day of celebration. We are honored to host the churches of Northfield at our parish this year.

The women of the WDP Committee of Egypt invite us into a time of worship with the words of the prophet Isaiah; "I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert." With these words as backdrop, we are invited to learn about Egypt's history and rich cultural diversity.



An exploration of the Samaritan woman's conversation with Jesus at the well shows how they were able to transcend their religious and cultural differences and build a common ground, empowering the woman to bring change to her community.

Invite your friends, family and neighbors to join the women of Egypt in prayer and song to support ecumenical efforts toward justice, peace, healing and wholeness. The annual offering supports the work of

World Day of Prayer USA and will fund projects related to the availability of clean water, support for girls' education worldwide, intergenerational and interfaith dialogue, and the Arab Spring.

- Sue Babbs

Living Lent | Fellowship and Formation Opportunities



+ **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, March 4, 6:00-9:00PM**

Pancakes, sausages, and other tasty treats will be ready for your enjoyment. For adults: A short class entitled, “Why Lent?” For kids: Help decorate and bury the Alleluias and burn palm branches. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12, with a maximum cost of \$25 per household. All proceeds go to the Youth Group Fund. Kim Burnson is coordinating.

+ **Wednesday Coffee Talk, March 12, 19, 25, April 2, 9 and 16**

On Wednesdays during Lent, join us at 10:30AM following the mid-week worship service for Coffee Talk. Participants are invited to bring a news item that is positive, hopeful or life-giving and share it with the group. And of course, there will be coffee and great fellowship.

+ **The Next Good Thing: A Retreat for Ageless Seekers**

March 22, 9:30AM-2:30PM, Cost: \$15

Like the seasons of the year, so our lives ebb and flow, grow and hibernate, are active and still. Cultivating a life with God creates stability to face seasons of loss, change, and chances with a strong inner core of faith and hope. This retreat day will offer ways to connect to the Presence of God who is our rock in the midst of all seasons of life. Sign up in the parish hall.

+ **30 Worthy Minutes** throughout Lent will feature speakers, including Rev. Sam Portaro (March 23) and Rev. Lisa Senuta, leading the conversation on what it means to be faithful in discernment.

Living Lent | Almsgiving Opportunities

Deacon's Challenge: Help Stamp Out Hunger in our Community

- + **Who:** Our parish, in collaboration with other parishioners in the Diocese of Chicago.
- + **What:** A food drive, to collect canned or non-perishable food for the hungry. Our goal is at least 5 pounds of non-perishable food per person in our parish - that's a goal of more than 500 pounds!
- + **Where:** Collection at SJTL, given for the Northfield Food Pantry. Look for the display in our parish hall.
- + **When:** Kickoff is on March 30, for 3 weeks, ending on Palm Sunday, April 13. We'll have Jill Brinkman, Supervisor of Northfield Township, with us on March 30 to help us kickoff the campaign and talk to us about the food needs in our community.
- + **Why:** Hunger is a local as well as a global issue, and the number of hungry is growing. As the Greater Chicago Food Depository motto goes, "No 1 should go hungry."

As we have a food pantry giving program in place, this will augment what we're doing in a concentrated time during Lent. It's the Deacon's Challenge for 2014, supported by our Bishop. The Deacon community discerned that God's call for the Diocese is to reach out to the hungry in this manner, and we have set a minimum goal of 5 pounds of canned or non-perishable food per parishioner.



May your spirit be moved to contribute to this cause, helping our sisters and brothers in need. As we know, "Hunger never takes a vacation", and the devastating effects of hunger are broad and deep to the body, the mind and the spirit. Young and old, hunger affects all. Together, let's help stamp out hunger in our community.

If you cannot bring canned or non-perishable food to SJTL, call Ron (847) 604-9232 for alternatives.

Thanks for your support and participation,
Hollie Clay & Ron Valentine, co-facilitators

Living Lent | More Almsgiving Opportunities

Donate to Heifer International

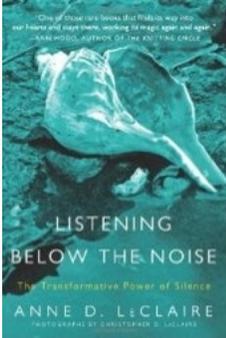
Heifer Sunday is March 16!

As is our tradition, the children of the parish will host a Heifer-themed coffee hour, full of treats and information about the ways Heifer International provides animals and animal husbandry instruction to people in third world countries. Donations will be collected by the children during coffee hour. Learn more about this special event in the Children’s Ministry Update on p. 8.



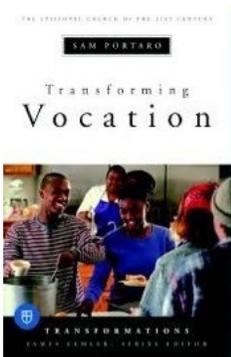
Living Lent | Recommended Reading

***Listening Below the Noise* by Anne D. LeClaire, available for \$14 at SJTL**



Synopsis from the author: “Beginning in 1992, I have not spoken on the first and third Mondays of each month. When I began this practice I viewed it as a one-day experiment little realizing that it would lead to an on-going practice and certainly never envisioning that it would result in a book. But as the years passed, I had a growing desire to share the immense peace and strength that I was drawing from the practice, as well as to convey to others how they can bring an ancient practice into a harried, modern world.”

***Transforming Vocation* by Sam Portaro (Chapter 4 in particular), \$13 at SJTL**



In the Episcopal Church, it seems the only real purpose and end of Christian discernment is professional ordination, either to the priesthood or to the vocational diaconate. This book deals with such questions as, How can both communities and individuals discern a call from God within the vocations and tasks in which they find themselves? How can the Church deal creatively with its confusion about the differing roles and authority of ordained and lay ministers?

+Special Note: Rev. Sam Portaro will be joining us for worship, 30 Worthy Minutes and again at 11:00AM on March 23.+

Both books are available at the church or through any online bookseller.

Levi's Table at The Grove

Levi's table is one of our Outreach Ministries, serving the needs of and caring for the residents of The Grove of Northbrook, at 263 Skokie Blvd, Northbrook (just north of PetSmart and Garden Fresh Market). To the right is an image of parishioners writing Christmas Cards to Grove residents.



March Calendar

Sunday, March 2	We will be bringing any residents who wish to attend our 10:00am service
Wednesday, March 5, 2:30pm	Ash Wednesday Service (Note: This is a change of date from our usual monthly pattern, and therefore we will not be holding a service on March 12)
Wednesday, March 19, 2:30pm	Monthly Birthday Party
Wednesday, March 26, 2:30pm	Eucharistic Service

April Calendar

Sunday, April 6	We will be bringing any residents who wish to attend our 10:00am service
Wednesday, April 9, 2:30pm	Afternoon Prayer Service
Wednesday, April 16, 2:30pm	Monthly Birthday Party
Friday, April 18, 2:30pm	Good Friday Service of readings and meditation
Wednesday, April 23, 2:30pm	Eucharistic Service

May Calendar

Sunday, May 2	We will be bringing any residents who wish to attend our 10:00am service
Wednesday, May 14, 2:30pm	Eucharistic Service
Wednesday, May 19, 2:30pm	Monthly Birthday Party
Wednesday, May 28, 2:30pm	Afternoon Prayer Service

All birthday parties and services at The Grove will happen in their dining room starting at 2:30 p.m. and all help is welcome. For more information, please contact Sue Babbs, Bill Fox or Ron Valentine.

Pastoral Care Committee: Card Ministry

The Pastoral Care Committee (PCC), in its effort to reach out to parishioners at St. James the Less, has initiated a Card Program to recognize certain events in a congregant’s life. To make the program both meaningful and manageable, the PCC discerned these three events as a way to “touch” members: a birthday, a prolonged illness, and a loss of a loved one.

The first event is one’s birthday. No matter if someone is turning 21 –much to celebrate– or turning 81 –even more auspicious – birthday cards recognize this marker as a special time that should not go unnoticed. To that end, the PCC will be sending a birthday card to parishioners of SJTL who reach yet another milestone on their journey of life.

The next event that deserves some attention from the spiritual community is a protracted illness. For the person suffering and for those standing by and administering to him or her, the journey is often arduous, particularly in its relentlessness. The Prayer Group already

identifies and then devotes prayers for those individuals. A card is just another reminder that SJTL is a source of spiritual strength during this challenging time.

The last event recognizes the need for continued support during the grieving process. At the onset of losing a loved one, many helpful hearts and rituals are there to offer solace. But as weeks turn into months

and other events eclipse the memory of the loss, the grieving person is still in need of comfort because his or her memory has not diminished. So a card will be sent a few months before the one-year anniversary of the death to remind the bereaved

that SJTL is there for them...and remembers.

The Pastoral Care Committee acknowledges that a simple card may not be sufficient enough to elicit a smile, reduce a distress, or soothe a broken heart. But through the Card Program, the PCC of SJTL is reaching out in hopes of “touching” someone.

- Marilee McGowan



Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

- Romans 12:15 (NRSV)

Communications - Are You on the Right List?

As most of you know, this year we trying something slightly different when it comes to receiving information from the parish:

- + **Printed, quarterly newsletters** - Instead of a monthly newsletter, we will produce quarterly newsletters, focused on themes and seasons.
- + **More diverse voices in the weekly email** - Since we might miss hearing from various ministries and leaders in the church each month, the weekly e-announcement email will include even more voices and articles.
- + **Bi-monthly mailings to our parishioners who are not online** – Every other week, a printed copy of the e-announcements will be sent to these folks. The number of mailings to folks on this list will actually increase, even though the newsletter will now happen quarterly.



What we need from YOU - Are you on the right list?

Three Options:

- + **No Change** - You want to keep receiving weekly e-announcements in your inbox and Quarterly publications coming to your home. You don't need to sign up or change your preference anywhere to keep this option.
- + **Printed and Mailed** - If you would like to receive printed copies of the e-announcements every other week, please sign up in the parish hall, or call the church office (847-446-8430) and request to be added to this mailing list.
- + **Paperless** - Some of you have indicated that you would rather not receive any printed communications, including this quarterly newsletter, out of economic and environmental concern. If this is the case, please sign up in the parish hall or email me (kate@stjamestheless.org) to let me know.

-Kate Rickard, Communications Coordinator

St. James the Less Staff Contacts and Address

550 Sunset Ridge Rd., Northfield, IL 60093 | (847) 446-8430 | www.stjamestheless.org

Rev. Lisa Senuta, Rector | lsenuta@stjamestheless.org | (847) 446-8430 x 201

Rev. Ron Valentine, Deacon | chaplain@stjamestheless.org | x 208

Virginia Hunt, Administrative Assistant | virginia@stjamestheless.org | x 200

Kate Rickard, Communications Coordinator | kate@stjamestheless.org | x 202

Anastasia C. Balmer, Director of Music | music@stjamestheless.org | x 204

Miriam Berry, Director of Church School | mamamastercard@comcast.net

Joanne Straughn, Bookkeeper | bookkeeper@stjamestheless.org | x 202

John Stevens, Senior Warden | vestry@stjamestheless.org

Richard Adams, Deacon Intern | richard@stjamestheless.org



Calendar Highlights

March*

- 4** 4:00pm - Serve Dinner at A Just Harvest Community Kitchen
- 4** 6:00-9:00pm - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Activities
- Ash Wednesday:
7:00-8:30am - Ashes to Go
10:00am - Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes
- 5** 3:30-5:30pm - Ashes to Go
7:00pm - Prayer Service with Imposition of Ashes and Choral Music
- 7** 10:00am - St. James the Less Hosts the World Day of Prayer Service
- 9** Daylight Savings Time Starts and Kids Wear Pajamas to church! (P. 8)
- 10** 1:00pm - Book Group at the home of Peggy Greene: *Killing Lincoln* by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard
- 11** 7:00pm - Vestry Meeting
- 12** Begin Wednesday Coffee Talk at 10:30am
- 16** Heifer Sunday (P. 8, 12)
- 22** 9:30am-2:30pm - "The Next Good Thing": A Retreat for Ageless Seekers (P. 10)
- 23** The Rev. Sam Portaro joining us for worship, 30 Worthy Minutes, and again at 11:30am
- 30** Kick off Deacon's Challenge: Help Stamp Out Hunger in our Community (P. 11)

April*

- 1** 4:00pm - Serve Dinner at A Just Harvest Community Kitchen
- 8** 7:00pm - Vestry Meeting
- 13** Palm Sunday, End Deacon's Challenge
- 17** 6:00pm - Agape Dinner
7:00pm - Maundy Thursday Service
8:30pm - Begin Garden Watch
- 18** 9:30am Holy Week for Children, 12:00 Noon - Eucharist with reserved Sacrament, 7:00pm - Good Friday Taizé Service
- 20** Easter Sunday with Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:00am Service

***Please see events happening at The Grove on page 13.**

+++

There are many more events that happen regularly at SJTL, including Friday Prayer meetings, choir rehearsals and our knitting group. To view these dates and be added to our weekly e-announcements, contact the Parish Office or send Kate Rickard, Communications Coordinator, a note at kate@stjamestheless.org. A printed version of the e-announcement is also available by request.

+++