
THE GRAPEVINE

ST. JAMES PARISH • WILMINGTON, NC

WEEK OF AUGUST 15, 2021

FROM THE RECTOR

THE REV. C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR.

"This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you." ~ John 15:12

Dear St. James Parish Family,

We are presented this day with the reality of the surge of the COVID delta variant, and the opportunity to respond as a community of faith committed to the dignity of every human being. With that in mind, there are new safety measures we need to adopt as of this Sunday, August 15th. The information and corresponding protocols I share here are intended to foster safety, to promote health, and importantly - to model our love for one another.

Last evening I reconvened our parish COVID Task Force (see members below), and asked for practical and reasonable advice on best practices for St. James Parish to gather in worship. With the expertise around the table, there was complete and unanimous support for the below measures. With appreciation, I am accepting the recommendations of this group, which include the following:

Indoor Use of Masks: As of this Sunday, we are returning to masks for all who are present inside our worship spaces. This includes our historic downtown sanctuary, and also the interior of Mount Lebanon Chapel. The use of masks will not be required, but certainly acceptable, for those who choose to remain and worship outside at Mount Lebanon Chapel. We will have masks available should you find yourself in need.

The Peace: We have learned over this season many ways to wish each other the peace of God without physical contact. It is difficult to ask, but please refrain from handshaking and hugs at this time.

Communion: We will continue to offer communion in kind (bread only) at all of our services. The distribution downtown will return to the landing (and not the high altar rail), and will be brought to those gathered outside at Mount Lebanon Chapel.

At this time we will not enact additional social distancing measures, nor will we dispense with singing. As has been the case for all of this time, please remember the value of proper handwashing and the use of hand sanitizer.

The COVID Task Force will meet again on Monday, August 23rd. At that time, we will consider the most up to date information, and how to proceed forward as a community.

I recognize and honor that the return of these protocols is frustrating and disappointing for everyone - myself included. Please be patient and gracious with one another, and remember that we are all beloved children of God, and we are committed to one another.

If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns about this information, please reach out to me directly. You are important to me.

Faithfully,



Phillip

phillip@stjamesp.org
(910) 508-3764 cell/text



ST. JAMES COVID TASK FORCE

Edward W. Whitesides, M.D.

Stuart M. Hardy, M.D.

Todd Hinshaw, Pharm.D.

The Clergy of St. James Parish

The Wardens of St. James Parish

Erin Becker, St. James Director of Communications

ST. JAMES VISION STATEMENT

To build community through ministries that strengthen our faith.

ST. JAMES MISSION STATEMENT

To welcome all to grow in love of God and neighbor.

ST. JAMES UPDATES

ONLINE RESOURCES CAN BE FOUND AT:

www.stjamesp.org

IN OUR PRAYERS:

David Champney, James Graham, Missy Wright, Jane Carey and all those who are again isolated from family and visitors.

CONDOLENCES TO:

The Family and Friends of Marguerite Boucher

The Family and Friends of Mary Jo Oakley

The Family and Friends of Bill Young

SERVICE TIMES- SUNDAYS IN SUMMER

Join us for worship! We are hosting our services at the following times:

Online Worship

9:30 AM- Livestream from Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Mt. Lebanon Chapel

8:30 AM- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

9:30 AM- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Downtown Campus

8:00 AM- Indoors- Holy Eucharist - Rite I

10:30 AM- Indoors- Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Our Summer Service times will conclude on Sunday, September 5th, 2021 and special service times for Welcome Sunday are posted below!

PLEDGING & GIVING ONLINE

To donate and support St. James Parish, visit: onrealm.org/StJamesParish/give/pledge. You can visit stjamesp.org/stewardship for a video with step-by-step instructions for pledging online. Gifts may also be made to the St. James Foundation. Visit: stjamesp.org/st-james-foundation for more information.

SEPTEMBER 12th IS WELCOME SUNDAY!

Sunday September 12 | All Morning | St. James Parish

Make plans to join us on Sunday, September 12th for Welcome Sunday. We'll be gathering together at St. James Parish for a time of community and worship. Here's a preview of what to expect on this special Sunday.

- **8:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite I
- **10:30 a.m.** Holy Eucharist Rite II & The Blessing of the Backpacks
- **11:30 a.m.** Welcome Sunday Celebration

Stay tuned for more information on this special day and the Blessing of the Backpacks!

TONIGHT: MEN ON A MISSION- BURGERS AT BAHAMA

August 15, 2021 | 5:00-8:00 p.m. | Wrightsville Beach

Burgers At Bahama with Men On A Mission is coming your way! Get ready for a summer picnic. Men ages 21+ are invited to join the St. James Men On A Mission at Frank and Berta's beach house (17 Bahama Dr., Wrightsville Beach) on Sunday, August 15th from 5-8 p.m. Cost to attend is \$10 per person and you can RSVP via the website. Come ready for fun, fellowship, and grilling by the water. stjamesp.org/blog/men-on-a-mission

GREETER TRAINING

August 15th & 18th | 5:15-7:45 p.m. | Great Hall

All are invited to join us in fostering a spirit of welcome at St. James Parish! We'll be hosting Greeter Training this week in the Great Hall as part of our "Greeters- Good to Great" Initiative This effort also includes clergy, the Parish Life Commission, and our congregation. If you want to be a part of a smaller community with a larger purpose at St. James or if you feel called to make Christ's love known to our visitors, this ministry is for you! Please contact Frances Trask at francestrask9@gmail.com or Elizabeth Hinshaw at ehinshaw@ec.rr.com to join us in this important endeavor.

CALLING ALL ACOLYTES- ACOLYTE DINNER

August 18, 2021 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Perry Hall

Get ready for a dinner invitation! The Acolyte Leadership Team is planning a special dinner for our young people who are interested in learning more about what it means to be an acolyte. RSVP on the St. James website. stjamesp.org/blog/calling-all-acolytes

EPISCO-POSSE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Next Meeting August 18, 2021 | 8:15 p.m. | Zoom

All women (Age 21 and up) are invited to join us for Bible Study! We're currently reading through the book of Hebrews. We meet every other week on Zoom! Contact Leslie Jarrett (Leslie.H.Jarrett@gmail.com) or Michelle Gray (michelle.gray@nhcs.net) to learn more!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NIGHT

Thursday, August 19, 2021 | 6:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor

We need you! Help us build our Sunday School team of teachers and ministers. There will be several ways to get involved this fall. Email Children's Christian Formation Director Shannon Lockamy at christianformation@stjamesp.org to see what opportunities are available and make plans to join us on the 19th!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH MOMENT: A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW'S VIEW

by Kay Dougherty

Not every daughter-in-law is as fortunate as I was. David's parents were two of the most caring and loving people I have ever known, especially in their support of me. So, it is not surprising that my relationship with them – Doris and Frank Dougherty – was a special one, and I miss both of them dearly.

In 2010, David and I were called by Frank to tell us that Doris had been taken to the hospital in Gaithersburg, MD and that although her condition was not serious, she would be there for a couple of days, before returning to the rehabilitation center of their Asbury Village community. We were told she'd be in the rehab unit for a very short time. For a couple in their mid-90s, they seemed to have things under control.

Still, David's older brother, Winston, decided to visit from Florida to help take care of his dad, and so we did not feel a real need to be there. We'd certainly made that trip many times, and would as soon as we were needed. However, over the next couple of days, in conversations with Winston, we began to understand that Frank's health had begun to take a dramatic turn for the worse, even if he could manage his day-to-day affairs. Concerned, we quickly decided to drive from our house in Pottstown, PA to Gaithersburg, and by the time we arrived, we could clearly see that Frank, with some degree of urgency, now needed to be taken to the hospital himself. In fact, the "authorities" at the retirement community insisted he be taken there by ambulance. Given his parents' age, David and I were not completely surprised by this turn of events, but we were still worried.

What followed was, by the grace of God, a true blessing. When Winston, David, and I arrived at the hospital, we were told that Frank had been admitted and been taken to his room. And so, we went to find him, but planned to check in on Doris on the way. However, when we walked into Doris' room, there was Frank. Married almost 65 years, Doris and Frank were together again, side by side, in a hospital room! "They" – Heaven knows whom -- had somehow put them together, although we have no idea how they knew or even got permission to do that. In fact, not only were they together, but they were watching Frank's beloved Philadelphia Phillies on television. David and I, along with his brother Winston, sat down to cheer the Phils on together.

Then, in the very early hours of the next morning, Frank Dougherty, having spent the evening with Doris and the three of us – five people who hadn't been together in the same room for years – died in his sleep, suddenly, silently, and peacefully. For sure, we were shocked and sad, but we still found peace knowing that, through divine intervention, he had spent his last hours watching the Phillies win and being with his loving family. It just doesn't get better than that.

SUMMER NEWCOMER MINGLE

August 22, 2021 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | St. James Parish

Join us for the Summer Newcomer Mingle, Sunday, August 22, 4:00-6:00 PM in the Great Hall at St. James. This event is for all Newcomers, no matter how long you've been a newcomer. Just arrived? Please come. Been attending St. James a year or three, but want to learn more? Please come. Want to come, but family/friends are in town that weekend? Please come and bring them. In addition to this important meet-and-greet time, a tour of our beautiful historic Church will be available so you'll know where classrooms and bathrooms are, and you'll understand a bit about the campus. Childcare is available with advance reservation. Call the Church office, 910-763-1628 to RSVP or visit our website. stjamesp.org/blog/summer-newcomer-mingle

GRIEF MINISTRY STARTING SOON

Monday, August 23, 2021 | 5:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor

Each of us has experienced loss in our lives, but some are larger than we can, or desire, to manage alone. Please join us for an organizational meeting to determine the needs of St. James.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Sunday, August 29, 2021 | All Day

St. James is once again responsible for delivery of Meals on Wheels on Sunday, August 29, and we need volunteers to make a cold pasta dish (recipe will be included in email for any volunteers); to drive a route; to provide seedless grapes; or to provide brownies from Sam's or Costco. Anyone wanting to volunteer or needing more information should contact mollyroush@hotmail.com.

BREAD BREAKERS' HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, August 29, 2021 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Kirby Home

Join us for Hospitality at Home! We will be at the Kirby Home on Sunday, August 29th at 4pm. Bring a dish to share, and St. James will provide the meat. RSVP via the MeetUp Page or by contacting Chris@stjamesp.org.

QUIET REFLECTION

September 4, 2021 | 7:30-8:30 a.m. | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

Join us for a time of contemplated prayer and meditation at the beautiful Mt. Lebanon Chapel.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Saturday, September 11, 2021 | St. James Parish

Get ready to Rise Against Hunger! We're in need of a few organized individuals to help us coordinate efforts for this upcoming outreach event on Saturday, September 11th. If you are interested in being on the team to set up and organize this important event, please reach out to Janet Ward at janetwrd@aol.com.

SJDS FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | St. James Day School

The orientation session for parents and children is Tuesday, August 31. Please drop by the school anytime between 10:00 am-11:30 am. The first day of school is WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, September 12, 2021 | 10:30 a.m. | St. James

Shopping for school supplies, books, and fall clothes will soon become a part of everyone's schedule. Here at St. James, on Sunday, September 12, we want to celebrate and bless the beginning of another school year. Students, preschool through adult, bring your backpacks or lunch boxes to worship at 10:30 am. The services will lift up children and students of all ages, dedicating them to God's glory as we begin a new school year. Teachers, aides, principals, administrators, secretaries, cooks, librarians, janitors, and bus drivers...come to church to be blessed, affirmed in your vocation, and encouraged as you serve children and families in your daily work!

SJDS COFFEE ON THE LAWN

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 | 8:45 a.m. | St. James

On Wednesday, September 15, after drop-off, please join our clergy, other parents and me for coffee on the lawn in front of the Bacon House.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO SET UP YOUR SJDS 2021-2022 VIC CARD LINK

Please link or re-link (you have to re-link your card every year to the Day School). Our school code is 5264. The associate at the Customer Service desk can help you. SJDS receives funds based on the number of linked cards, and a portion of the proceeds on the sale of all HT brand items... an easy fundraiser for us! Ask your friends and family to link their VIC cards, too!

PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION OPEN

October 1-3, 2021 | Trinity Center

Plan to join us from Friday, October 1st, at dinner time through Sunday, October 3rd, after a small Sunday morning service and breakfast. This will be a wonderful time to get to know our new Rector, The Rev. Phillip Craig, and our church family. stjamesp.org/blog/2021-retreat/

GET INVOLVED!

As Rev. Chris shared last Grapevine, there are no "volunteers" at St. James. We do ministry. If you are interested in learning how you can minister with our church family there are tons of great ways to get involved. Here are a few ministry opportunities with immediate availability to serve (aka, we need you)!

- Lectors/Readers
- Acolytes/Crucifers
- Greeters
- Altar Guild
- Ushers
- Wedding Guild
- Lemonade & Cookies
- Office Ministry
- Parish Shop
- St. James Choir

Contact Erin at communications@stjamesp.org to learn more!

OFFICE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

We're so excited to be ramping up our summer and fall programming. Along with these activities, there is a need for volunteers to participate in our St. James Office Ministry. Have some free time during the week? Sign up to serve in the parish office! Reach out to Bill McKenzie at bill@stjamesp.org to learn more.

LEMONADES AT MT. LEBANON

We're looking for parishioners to sign up to provide and serve lemonade and individually packaged cookies at Mt. Lebanon Chapel following the 9:30 a.m. service! Please sign up online at stjamesp.org/blog/lemonades-at-mt-lebanon.

ON MUSIC AT ST. JAMES

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live" ~ Psalm 104:33

Please know that there will be opportunities for both children and adults alike to join the music ministry at St. James as we return to our "new normal" this fall! Please be in touch with John Sullivan (music@stjamesp.org) for more information.

NEW EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM YEAR STARTING THIS FALL

This September, the Wednesday evening Education for Ministry (EfM) group at St. James Parish will begin a new program year, and we will have several openings for new members. EfM is a 4-year program which includes in-depth study of the Old Testament (1st year), New Testament (2nd year), Christian history (3rd year), and Christian theology and ethics (4th year). If you would like to know more about EfM at St. James, please contact Bill Bivins (wpbivins@gmail.com) or Karen Clark (clarklc11@gmail.com). They would be glad to talk with you and provide further information about EfM.

WEEKDAY MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES

Monday-Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Zoom

Start your day with a little prayer! Join us on Zoom for a time of prayer, fellowship, and music. Sign up for our email list by reaching out to communications@stjamesp.org.

HOME IN CHRIST

by Sarah Thomas

Whenever you go out of town for a long trip or vacation and leave our house locked up, you realize just how much it means to you. We recently went on vacation to Asheville and after about a week away, coming back into our house and laying on our own beds felt like a new beginning, at least in sleep. I've always enjoyed Asheville more than the rest of my family because I connect better with the mountains than the beach. In the middle of nowhere with nothing but trees all around you, with no phone service either, you can feel and smell the freshness in the air.

When I was younger, I would climb everything I could get near. Cars, sheds, and trees of all sizes. It always scared my mom to death but being up in the highest branches, swaying with the wind was the place I felt most at home.

Another place that has felt like home for many years is Camp Trinity, a church camp near Emerald Isle that doesn't allow phones or any hurtful words. I believe this summer was my 6th year going and every time, no matter who's in my cabin or which counselor I get, I've always loved the feel of the wind through my hair and the peacefulness of those moments when we weren't singing.

Although my real home is back in Wilmington, I have always found home wherever I feel closest to God, in the air. I know that sounds weird but if I close my eyes in the middle of a mountain trail, the top of a tree, or on the edge of Sanders Point, I can feel God in the wind breathing life into me. Hopefully, some of you have found what brings you closer to home with God and have filled your life with that feeling because, as Dorothy said in *The Wizard of Oz*, "there's no place like home!"

DIRECTORY PICTURES

Sunday, September 12, 19, 26 | St. James Parish

Come ready to pose! We'll be doing updated family and/or individual portraits for our parish directory. After services on the listed Sundays some of our talented photographer friends will be available to take your picture! We invite you to upload it into your online directory listing. Once everyone has had the opportunity to update and review their information, we'll be working to create an updated printed version of the directory. Stay tuned for the timeline and instructions to request your physical copy of the 2021 St. James Parish directory. If you're a digital fan, you may always view the parish directory online through our REALM portal: onrealm.org/StJamesParish/SignIn.

SUBMITTING ROOM AND PUBLICATION REQUESTS ONLINE

With so many great programs and activities at St. James, we're hoping to make it easier to find and submit information! Did you know you may submit a publication request, or reserve a room with St. James facilities on the website?

To submit a room/space use request form visit:

stjamesp.org/room

To submit a publication request form visit:

stjamesp.org/publications

Have questions about how to best use these forms? Please reach out to Erin Becker at communications@stjamesp.org.

GRAPEVINE PUBLICATION & MAILING UPDATE

As we draw closer to the fall, one of the many programs that we have been evaluating is our Grapevine publication. We're excited to announce that we're taking the weekly version of the Grapevine digital! In the coming weeks, you'll begin to see more Grapevine content, like our prayer list and other parish announcements consistently featured in our Tuesday email. In September, we will roll out the fully updated version! We will also be adding the programming and event highlights to a small section of the Sunday bulletin to help make sure you don't miss out on any upcoming opportunities if you don't regularly check your email.

With more Grapevine content coming to you weekly in digital format, we'll be creating a more robust version of the Grapevine to be mailed out on a monthly basis! This transition helps ensure you receive a comprehensive look at what's happening at St. James in the month ahead. We'll also continue to link the month's PDF version to each week's email.

We'll be taking this opportunity to refresh our Grapevine Mailing list! If you would like to be on the updated mailing list, please make sure to let us know before September 1st.

Please reach out to us in the Parish Office (910.763.1628) or send our team an email at communications@stjamesp.org to let us know you'd like to **receive or continue to receive** the monthly printed Grapevine.

ST. JAMES PARISH

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Wilmington, NC 28401

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NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., AUG. 16-20

MORNING PRAYER

8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom | Led by
laity and clergy

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

FELLOWSHIP AA

7:00 PM | Great Hall

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

9:00-11:30 AM | Great Hall or Zoom

MEN'S AL ANON

5:15-7:00 PM | Great Hall

WDAA BASKETBALL
PRACTICE

6:30-8:30 PM | Perry Hall

SACRED GROUND SESSION 10

7:00 PM | Zoom

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

PCJ BIBLE STUDY

8:30 AM | Zoom | Led by our Youth
Group and with Youth Advisor support

GREETER TRAINING

5:15-7:25 PM | Great Hall

ACOLYTE DINNER

6:00-8:00 PM | Perry Hall

EPISCO-POSSE BIBLE STUDY

8:15 PM | Zoom

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

CHRISTIAN FORMATION TEACHER
MEETING

6:00-8:00 PM | Graham Parlor

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

8:00 AM | St. James Parish

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

8:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel BYOS*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

9:30 AM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel BYOS*

ONLINE RITE II LIVE STREAM

9:30 AM | St. James Parish Website or
Facebook

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

10:30 AM | St. James Parish

SUMMER NEWCOMER MINGLE

4:00-6:00 PM | Great Hall

***BYOS:** Bring Your Own Supplies if you plan to sit outside- Please bring your own chairs, picnic blankets, etc.

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the August 24th e-blast is Friday, August 20th. Please use online form to submit.