



eTower



A weekly email publication for the community of St. James Church in College Hill

Message of the Moment

Every Saint has a Past Every Sinner has a Future

Adulterated or not, this phrase: “Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future,” was first turned by Oscar Wilde. An infamous sinner, Wilde had a less recognizable saintly side, but we know it was there, despite his best efforts to obscure it.

My favorite, Richard Rohr, has told a story about himself as a young Franciscan monk. He was in conversation with his confessor about being in accord with one another. His confessor said, “Richard, you know well the great commandment: to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself. Well, part of our responsibility is to make ourselves more loveable.” To Richard, this was a surprising thing to hear. It had not been part of his equation, so he had some learning to do.

The Episcopal Church has elements of its history which fit into this category. We have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and we have the rest of our days to do better. This is what the Sacred Ground conversation circles are helping us see about racism and faith. This is a project for everyone.

The joy of the next two weeks is honoring what has gone before and celebrating what is yet to come. The first weekend of November is the commemoration of All Saints. This includes the well-known ones, St. James of Jerusalem, and Saint Francis of Assisi, for example, as well as the ones we knew and loved in this life, the ones little remembered, and the ones who are still mirrors of God’s love.

At St. James we talk about our congregation, and all of the people

who were once members of this parish, and those to come, as a local representation of the entire Communion of Saints. Saints now living are asked, on the Feast of All Saints, to make their offerings for the good of the parish today and for the saints yet to experience God's love in this place. An annual pledge of giving is an outward and physical way of expressing God's love which is known to us through an inward and spiritual grace. Giving generously is something we can do for each other today and for a long time to come. A saint can be anyone who has made the love of God known to another person. Open yourself to letting God work through you.

The 100th anniversary of this parish will be extolled at one special service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 14. This occasion will give thanks for the many blessings which have brought St. James through its first 100 years. We will also begin the groundwork for our second century. New members will be confirmed, dreams will be dreamed, and the experience of our Holy Communion will assure us of our unity for the future.

We can't predict how events will unfold in the future, yet we can still say with confidence that it won't be what we have yet imagined. The ongoing miracle of The Body of Christ is its living nature, the way it is forever the incarnation of God in humanity; in us. The Body is capable of healing and transformation. It can be moved, added to, or subtracted from, but not extinguished. God is alive and at work in the world through us at St. James Church. We have reasons to celebrate and we have the most solid ground for hope.

Whether by your presence, your prayer, or your presentation of gifts, please be with us in the weeks – and years – to come. God bless you always.

**In Christ's Love,
Mother Dawn+**

First Things First

Parish Ingathering next weekend, November 6-7 at all worship services. Please bring your completed pledge forms to church and place them in the offering plate. They will be blessed in the presence of the congregation and dedicated to our ministry of sharing God's love with each other and with the wider community. To request a pledge form, please contact the church office. Blank forms will be available in the back of the church and at the front desk. If you can't be with us, you can sign up to give online, or return your form by mail. Thank you for your ongoing generosity; it is very important to us.

Bishop Cathleen Bascom will help us celebrate coming into our

parish's second century at one special service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 14. Those eligible will be confirmed during the service, which will be followed by a champagne reception in the Guild Hall. **[Click here for more information about special anniversary memorabilia.](#)**

St. James' Welcome Team invites new and longtime members of our community to a mixer at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 in the lounge. Please join us to meet other members and enjoy fellowship.

Readings This Week



Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[Click here to go to the Lectionary Page](#)

[Click here for a free PDF download of the Book of Common Prayer](#)

Lessons appointed for the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem:

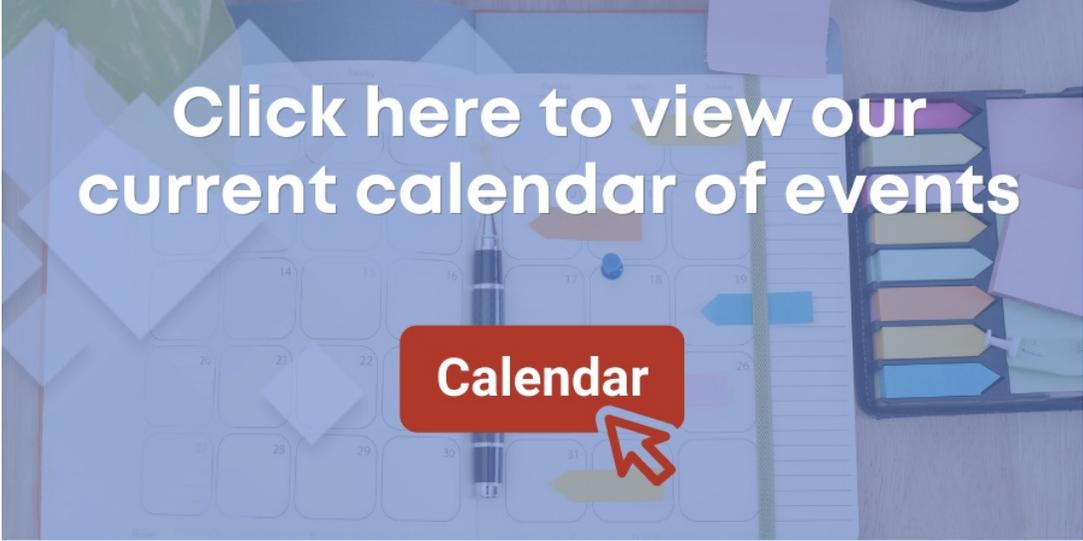
[Ruth 1:1-18](#)

[Psalm 146](#)

[Hebrews 9:11-14](#)

[Mark 12:28-34](#)

Calendar



Click here to view our
current calendar of events

Calendar

Children and Youth

Children's Sunday school & Children's chapel will be next Sunday, Nov. 7 starting at 9:30 a.m. We will learn about the Passover and the Exodus from Egypt. If you have any questions about our children's program, [please click here to email Chelsea](#). We look forward to seeing you there!

Parish News and Updates

Please pick up your parish directory at the front desk. Directories are in envelopes with parishioners' names on them. If you don't find one with your name, please take a directory and fill out a form that you've done so.

Adult Forum meets at 9:45 a.m. Sundays in the Guild Hall. The topic is "Going Off the Lectionary Grid."

The Nominating Committee will meet after the 10:45 a.m. service — about noon — on Sunday, Oct. 31.

The Daughters of the King will meet at 9:30 a.m. the first Sunday of the month in the Chapel of the Innocents.

Guild Hall Players presents "The Father" by Florian Zeller and Christopher Hampton from Nov. 4 through 7. Directed by Phil Speary, the GHP production will feature an ensemble of some of Wichita's finest actors. Performances are 8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 4; Friday, Nov. 5; and Saturday, Nov. 6; and at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7. Tickets are available by calling the church and are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and military. [Click here for more information.](#)

Articles for Seasons are due to Deb Gruver by Nov. 12

Lectors, Acolytes, and Ushers We need your forgiveness and a little grace. We apologize for confusion on our part about who would like to volunteer to take part in any or all of our worship services. We have a list, but we are afraid it is not complete. If you would like to be included in future communications about being an acolyte, lector, or usher (or all three), please do us the kindness of sending an email to Mary Druding mdruding@cox.net or call the church office. Mary Druding and Deb Gruver will be coordinating the scheduling of this ministry. It is never too early to volunteer to usher on Christmas Eve! God bless you in your persistent attempt to volunteer where you are very needed.

Jr. Warden Danny Blair is starting a men's group for fellowship. The group also will work on chores around the church. If you are interested, please contact Danny at qsrranger@yahoo.com or by text at 316-652-5218.

100th anniversary memorabilia including bricks, prints of the Te Deum Window, note cards and other items are for sale on our website at <https://stjameswichita.org/100th-anniversary-and-labyrinth-bricks/>.

St. James Episcopal Church: the First 100 Years (our history book) can be purchased in the bookkeeper's office during business hours. Books also will be available in the lobby on Sundays between services. Books are \$25 each.

Wichita Minster News

The churches of the Wichita Minster are having an Advent/Christmas Festival of Music from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at St. John's Episcopal Church (402 N. Topeka) with a light reception to follow in the undercroft.

The minster has a new page on our website. [Click here for more minster news.](#)

Prayer

Parish Prayers for the Week of Oct. 31

[In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:](#) Pray for the Anglican Church in Bermuda.

[In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:](#) Pray for the people of the Indian Ocean islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Maldives.

[In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:](#) Pray for St. Jude's, Wellington.

[Pray for those serving in the military:](#) Will Corkins, J. David Anderson-

Lusk and Maureen Tanner.

Pray for those who have died: Colin Carroll, Jackie Davis, Anne Allen (former St. James organist), Jan Siefkes (mother of Joan Moore and grandmother of Grace and Eve Moore), Nan King, and Justin Wittman Bayles, son of the Rev. Joseph Bayles.

Pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity: Darwin, Jim T., Sage, Gary F., Ian, Mary (niece of Kate Miller), Helen, Laura, Jean, Marge, Dal, Gary, Pam, Jayne, Betty, Gus, Bob, Joe, Jerry, Larry, Mary, Jean, George, Carly, Tom, Cindy, Cathy, Kam, all people with COVID-19, and all health care workers.

Our Parish Prayer List: All members of our parish community are asked to pray for each person on our prayer list. To share your prayers of thanksgiving (births, weddings, new jobs, anniversaries, etc.), to notify us that someone you love is serving in the military, to share that you or someone you love is suffering, or to tell us of a death, please call 316-683-5686 or email office@stjameswichita.org.

**If your prayers have been answered,
we would love to rejoice with you.
Please let us know so your name may be removed
from our list of people most urgently in need. Thank you.**

Let Us Pray

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 18:2-7

My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, *
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge;
you are worthy of praise.

I will call upon the Lord, *
and so shall I be saved from my enemies.
The breakers of death rolled over me, *
and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid.
The cords of hell entangled me, *
and the snares of death were set for me.

I called upon the Lord in my distress *
and cried out to my God for help.
He heard my voice from his heavenly dwelling; *
my cry of anguish came to his ears.

Psalm 91:9-13

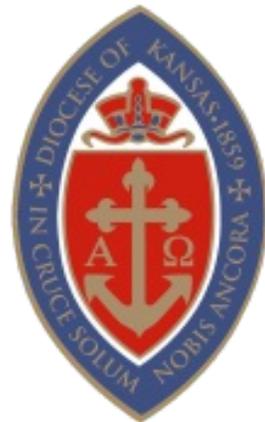
Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
For God shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
under your feet.

Helpful Links

[View Last Week's Service](#)

[Contribute to St. James Church](#)

[Parish Leadership](#)



**Whoever you are and
wherever you find yourself
on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here.**



St. James
Episcopal Church
CELEBRATING

YEARS
1920-2020
A COMMUNION
OF SAINTS

Get in Touch with St. James Episcopal Church



3750 E Douglas Ave
Wichita, KS 67208



office@stjameswichita.org
stjameswichita.org



316.683.5686

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