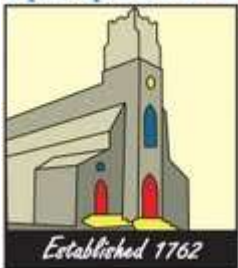


Saint James'
Episcopal Church



The Letter of Saint James'

St. James' Episcopal Church

The parish of St. James' ministers to all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

February 2014

FROM THE RECTOR'S OFFICE

Dear fellow believers:

February of 2014 will be a little different from the standpoint of the liturgical calendar. 28 out of 38 years, Ash Wednesday falls at some point in February. This year Ash Wednesday is March 5, which means that Easter is April 20. (For your source of useless knowledge: The latest that Easter can be is April 25, though the last time that happened was in 1943 and it won't happen again until 2038. The earliest it can be is March 22, by the way. So now be ready when I ask the question during the Children's Sermon! If you get that question when you win on *Jeopardy*, remember where you heard it and tithe your winnings to the church.)

What this really means is that the whole month of February is dedicated to the Epiphany – indeed, we number the Sundays from January 6 until Ash Wednesday as The Sundays After Epiphany. What does this mean in your own personal life? Not very much --- unless you truly understand what the Epiphany is all about. While we celebrate the day of Epiphany as the day in which the three Wise Men (or however many there were, scripture never really tells us) visited Jesus, it is really so much more than that. The action that we celebrate on Epiphany is really a celebration of the making known of the birth of the Messiah to the gentiles – in the Eastern churches it is known as the manifestation of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. (In some of the Eastern Orthodox Churches, January 6 is actually the day that they celebrate Christ's birth.)

The traditional symbol for the Epiphany is the star – as in the star that the wise men followed in order to find the baby Jesus. There was a time when you would walk into an Episcopal Church and there would be this star high over the altar which would only be lit during the Epiphany season. But there is more symbolism to that star than just giving direction to the Magi. The star also gave

light to the world. (There is a Polish tradition that during the Epiphany season, on February 2, the candles that will be used at Church and in people's homes are blessed.) The star was also used as a way to point to the Messiah – the true light of the world.

The Epiphany collect says: "O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face..." As we celebrate the Epiphany, we are called to be "stars" that point and light the way to the Christ. The light which enlivens our souls and hearts in faith is still shining in this restless and weary world. There are those who are searching so desperately for a faith in "something" outside of themselves – something greater than themselves. We who believe know that the "peace of God, which passes all understanding" can be found in the person of Jesus Christ.

During this short but cold month of February, live into the Epiphany and point others to the Christ. Find someone who is living in "darkness and the shadow of death" and bring them to the light of Christ. Jesus is waiting for them – you must be their guide.

Yours in Christ,

Joseph+

**FEBRUARY MISSION
THE HORD FOUNDATION**

HELPING OTHERS TO REALIZE THEIR DREAMS"

PURPOSE

To promote the education and enhance the career opportunities of young people of African-American descent by providing post-secondary school scholarships.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Over 700 scholarships as of December 31, 2007

"The Church is most truly itself, the Body of Christ, when it lives and breathes mission." The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Shori, Presiding Bishop.



FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Mark Corbett

For those who missed the interest meeting for the Cabaret (Performance on May 17) and are interested in performing or helping in any way, please let me know. Our theme for this year is "Hooray for Hollywood," so we will be performing songs from famous Hollywood movies. If you are interested in performing and would like to see a list of song ideas, please see me and I can give you a copy.

Also just as a reminder to all, if you have a favorite hymn that you haven't heard in a while, please don't hesitate to email or call me and let me know, and I'll be sure to fit it in where appropriate.



My January newsletter article fatefully declared "let it snow!" As I write this time, I am snowed into my house, with a 15-inch wall of snow covering my entire street. The lesson: be careful what you pray for!

As February arrives, our youth programs look forward toward Lent and Easter. In the coming weeks, our Church School will turn from the Old Testament stories of the fall, to the Gospel miracles of the spring. Stories and lessons will center on Jesus' life and his ministry detailed in the New Testament. In our preconfirmation group, we will begin learning about the ways youth and young adults participate in our Episcopal Church, now and in the coming years.

Additionally, our group will lead a presentation on food and hunger in honor of the Souper Bowl of Caring, on February 2nd. And, on Shrove Tuesday, look for our preconfirmands as your servers at the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.

I hope you have a wonderful final month of winter, and I pray that the groundhog will not see his shadow!

Peace,
Christopher Ceccolini, Director



Vestry Notes

Respectfully submitted by **JANE McGARRY, Clerk**

**St. James' Vestry Meeting
January 22, 2014**

(Postponed from January 21, 2014 due to snow storm.)

Attendees: Father Joseph, Dan, Carolyn, Linda S., Janet, Yvonne, Jehad, Christel, Judy, Betsy, Vicky, Victoria, Jane

Not present: Christine, John, Linda H., Lew

Father Joseph started the meeting at 7:05 with prayer.

Minutes from the December 2013 were accepted.

New Vestry members Vicky and Betsy were present.

Year-end financials were reviewed. Basically it was a good year. Treasurer's report provides details. Treasurer advised the committees to spend the money that has been budgeted for them and to spend wisely to grow their missions. Discussion took place regarding the Cash Position and the Self-Funding accounts.

A motion was made to accept the financial report for 2013. The financial report was accepted.

A motion was made by Linda Spaziani to have \$152,461 taken from the interest and appreciation of the permanent endowment fund 4335 for 2014. Motion was seconded by Janet Brown. The motion passed unanimously.

TV for Luckenbill – discussion took place regarding the cost of installation. An offering was made to have the installation done at no cost. A further discussion took place regarding the model and purchase of the TV. The goal is to have the TV installed by the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Discussion took place regarding meeting the needs of the congregation.

Father Joseph discussed congregation development and its reliance on fellowship, laughter, fun. People come back to a church because that is where their friends go.

Father Joseph is looking to take his retreat on the week after Easter. He is also looking at continuing education opportunities.

Vestry is looking forward to the annual meeting. Discussion took place regarding the meeting.

ASP Pasta dinner is February 1st. Vestry is encouraged to attend.

Fridays with Friends in February will have a guest DJ.

Annual reports are due tomorrow to the church office.

As we begin the new year, Vestry needs to make sure certain projects/topics maintain momentum – for example the heating system, 1 Terrace place property.

All Committee Night takes place usually once every three months. The next one would normally be in March, but it will be on Tuesday, April 8th instead. The others will be June 10th, September 10th and December 10th.

Goodbyes were said individually to the outgoing Vestry members.

Outgoing Warden Carolyn Flynn was honored with six prayer books dedicated to her.

Carolyn closed with prayer at 8:25pm.

From Parish Life...



All are invited to attend the St. James' Annual Crock Pot Cook-off to be held this year on **Saturday, February 25, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Luckenbill Hall.**

Parishioners are asked to bring a favorite dish such as soup, stew, chili, etc. Be creative; many a good dessert can be made in a crockpot as well. If you are bringing a crock pot dish please bring a serving utensil and note card with your name, the name of your dish, recipe (if you choose) and an alert to any possible ingredients for those with food allergies (such as nuts). Voting for the favorite of the evening will, again, be by cans of food to be donated to the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Those without crock pots may bring a salad, rolls/bread or a dessert. Coffee and cold drinks will be provided by Parish Life. Tasting is scheduled to begin at 6:15. Therefore, we ask everyone to bring their dishes hot and ready to serve by 6:00 p.m.

Who will win the coveted GOLDEN MARACA this year?

Jim Beschle and Jim Hughes and Pat Morgan have been past winners.

Can you beat them? Come and give a try!

Hope to see you on the 25th!

Parish Life in March...

**Saturday March 15th 6:00 – 8:00
Movie Night - The Princess Bride**



Based on William Goldman's novel of the same name, *The Princess Bride* is staged as a book read by a grandfather to his ill grandson. The grandfather assures a romance-weary grandson that the book has much more to deliver than a simpering love story, including but not limited to fencing, fighting, torture, death, true love, giants, and pirates. Be sure to join us.

Also in store, so save the dates...

CREATIVITY AT ST. JAMES'

Art work, pottery, needlework, sewing, knitting, woodworking, flower arranging, photography and cooking are just a few of the many creative talents we have seen around St. James' over the years. But not all at one time. Parish Life would like to showcase these talents by hosting a "Creativity" day on Saturday, **April 5, 2014** (time to be determined).

If you would like to have your artwork, quilts, sewing projects, photographs etc. on display or have questions about this event, please speak with Judy Griemsman or Janet Brown. "Creativity" day will be open to the public and include an afternoon tea. Check the March Newsletter, St. James' website and future Sunday Bulletins for more details.

A Cabaret Evening will take place on **Saturday, May 17** in the Youth Room.

The annual Parish Picnic will be held at the end of June. Details to follow in the months ahead.

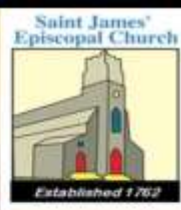
As always, feel free to contact Parish Life Committee with questions, comments, suggestions.



TAKING DIRECTION...



THE CAST AND CREW!



The St. James' Christmas Pageant



DRESS REHEARSAL ALREADY??

...IN REHEARSAL



IT'S SHOW TIME!!



THANK YOU FOR COMING.



DO YOU KNOW THE DOROTHY DAY MINISTRY?



The Dorothy Day Hospitality House is based on the Houses of Hospitality founded by Dorothy Day during the Great Depression. Our Dorothy Day House here in Danbury serves 80-120 hot meals each afternoon AND ALL of the work is done by volunteers -- there is no paid staff!

St. James' has been a supportive, volunteer force in this effort for many years and we want to continue to help feed those in need through this wonderful ministry. But to do so WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Our February food prep day is Thursday, February 20th , at 10:00 AM in the Luckenbill Kitchen. We are usually done by noon.

Our February food serve day is Friday, February 21st, at the Dorothy Day Hospitality House (DDHH) at 11 Spring St., Danbury. We meet up at the DDHH around 2:00 PM for set-up and begin serving at 3:15 PM and ending at 4:45 PM. Following the meal we clean up, and if all goes well, we usually wrap up our service day around 5:30 PM.

While we always enjoy seeing and serving with our regular volunteers (Many thanks to each and every one of you!!), we'd also love - and frankly, need - to see some new, additional faces on one or both of these February days and in the months ahead.

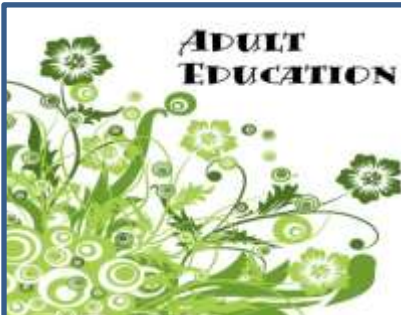
Please consider joining us this month. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Church (we need this so we can plan accordingly) and you are also welcome to contact any of the volunteers below for additional information:

Ms. Yvonne Kiddoe - yjk2@comcast.net

Ms. Ruth Cote - rcote55@aol.com

Ms. Jean Hassen - jean.hassen@att.net

Thank you and see you this month!



LOVING SOMEONE WITH AN ADDICTION

Wednesdays

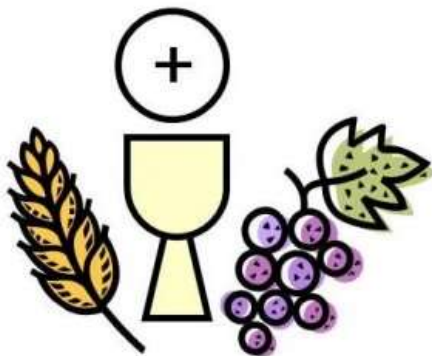
February 5 and 19

In this two part offering, we will look at the idea of addiction and how it affects not only the addict but the people he or she loves. This is designed for the family members and close friends of addicts, as well as those who minister to them. We will use a DVD course of the same name as our starting point. According to the DVD, this program will assist friends and family who stand by those they love in addiction:

“Through interviews with experts and personal testimonies, this video presentation offers a guide to:

- Understanding what an addiction really is
- Understanding the addict you love
- How addiction affects a family
- How to respond to feelings of shame and stigma
- Common difficulties for loved ones such as denial, enabling, fear, and grief
- The meaning and hope of recovery”

All are welcome to attend this offering. Participants will be asked to maintain strict and permanent confidentiality in all that is shared during the time. We will end each session with special prayers for healing for those suffering from addiction.



Eucharistic Visitor Training

Saturday, March 1st

10:00 am

with Carolyn Legg

SAVE THE DATE!

SAINT JAMES'



The St. James' prayer group has begun meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month in the Chapel, beginning around 9:00 am (immediately after the 8:00 Service) until 9:45. The purpose of this prayer group is to support people in their ministries, personal lives and groups or organizations outside St. James' in our community, the nation and world.

If you have a friend or family member in need or prayer, or some issue lies heavily upon your heart or mind, please join us in the Chapel. If you support some cause or organization, and you would like to lift them up to God, please join us in the Chapel and let your request be known. You may come early or you may come late. You may pray silently or out loud. You may join us for a few minutes or stay the entire time. Our first prayer group met on Jan 19th and we prayed especially for the Wounded Warriors returning from military service and their families. **Our next prayer group meets Feb. 23rd.**

Feel free to invite a friend.



HEALTH SCREENING AT ST. JAMES'



St James' Episcopal Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 3/13/2014. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**



Appalachia Service Project



*This year's trip is from Saturday, June 28th – Sunday, July 6th. Anyone who has completed 9th grade is eligible to attend. There will be an **informational session held on Thursday, Feb 20th and Wednesday, Feb 26th at 7:00 at the United Methodist Church on Clapboard Ridge** for anyone interested in attending this year's trip.*



The Silvertones are looking for new members!*

Just show up during any of their regular rehearsals on Tuesdays in the St. James' Choir Room from 10:30am to noon. Their performances are on Tuesdays as well, with the proceeds going to St. James! Join them!!

**A bass player, in addition to vocalists, would be great.*

Questions? Contact the Silvertones' Director:
Reet Lubin at reetlubin@aol.com

LENTEN QUIET DAY
Saturday, March 8
10:00 am till 2:30 pm
Trinity Church, Newtown
Sponsored by the Danbury Deanery

Soulsapes: A Geography of Grace
Led by the Rev. Suzanne Guthrie

A simple lunch will be provided, courtesy of Kim Polhemus.

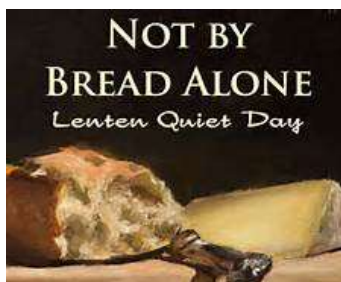
Please sign up in advance with the Rev. David Pople by emailing him at popedarev@yahoo.com

The Christian Year is a journey of transformation, a 'hero's journey' we experience in the depths of our soul, year after year. This small retreat takes participants through the journey using art slides, music, text, and graphics, to help each person realize they already "know the way" toward union with the Divine. Open to all men and women, the guide for the day is Suzanne Guthrie*.

****About Suzanne Guthrie***

Suzanne is the author of *Grace's Window: Entering the Seasons of Prayer and Praying the Hours*. She curates *Soulwork Toward Sunday*: a weekly "self-guided retreat" based upon the coming Sunday's Gospel reading on her website www.EdgeOfEnclosure.org.

Suzanne has served the church as a chaplain at Cornell University, Vassar College, as a children's priest, Christian Education consultant, and as a parish priest, but writing and retreat work continues to be her primary ministry. She and her husband Bill live in Woodstock, New York where she is currently writing a book on the mystical/ liturgical year.



FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

Please join us on **Friday, February 7th**, as Kevin Burland, a former radio DJ will be joining us as well. He was recently at a party some of us attended, and got us up on our feet teaching us some great dances. We had a wonderful evening. Bring a friend! There will be plenty of space for those who don't want to dance to still have casual conversations. Hope you can join us. It will be from 6-9 this month!

**See you on
February 7th!**



Come down and end the week socializing with friends. Bring your favorite bottle of wine or beer and an appetizer to share. You can bring non-alcoholic beverages as well. Invite a friend or neighbor to come join us as well. We will provide coffee.

*1ST FRIDAY OF THE
MONTH*

6:00 - 9:00

IN LUCKENBILL HALL

This event is limited to adults only as alcohol will be consumed.

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT LINDA SPAZIANI



Here in New England we never know when a storm might hit and how bad it might be. Always we want you to be safe and practical. If the weather is so bad that the Governor closes the roads, please do not attempt to come to Church – you only put yourself and others in harm's way. Here is a way to know if there is no Worship:

Wednesday evening Service and education events – and Sunday mornings

The only time Sunday Services are cancelled is if the Mayor declares a Level 3 Snow Emergency or there is a power failure or flooding in downtown Danbury. A Level 3 Snow Emergency means that only emergency vehicles should be on the roads – thus we should all stay home and out of the way of others who might need assistance. Check the television (St. James' will be listed on Channel 8 as "no programs" or as "programs cancelled"), radio, or the Danbury website (www.ci.danbury.ct.us). If none of the above occurs, the Rector will make every effort possible to get here to celebrate the Eucharist for whoever shows up. But again, please use extreme caution if you are planning on coming to Worship during or just after a storm. Also know, if there is a Level 2 Snow emergency, there might not be any parking available unless the front of the Church has been plowed by the City. We will make every effort possible to get the Church lot plowed and shoveled, but if it's in the middle of the storm, this might not happen. If in doubt, you can call the Rector at home. Please see your Parish directory for the number. If all you get is the answering machine, chances are he's at the church already.



We're at @StJames_Danbury on Twitter

**Search for
St. James' Episcopal Church, Danbury CT
on Facebook.**



Parish Cycle of Prayer – October 2013

***"I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions and thanksgivings be
made for everyone"***

I Timothy 2:1

Each month in our newsletter we include part of our alphabetical listing of the members of our congregation in the Parish Cycle of Prayer. This month you are asked to hold the following members in your prayers:

- Feb. 1 Elizabeth Egan; Roderick & Alexandra Edwards & Family; Richard & Joyce Emmett;
- Feb. 2 David & Marcella Emerito & Family; Korb & Josette Eynon; Andy Falter & Family;
- Feb. 3 Sean & Rebecca Fanning & Family; David & Anita Faria; Eugene & Shirley Fernekas;
- Feb. 4 Delia Ferrarone; Shirley Ferrarone; Joseph & Sally Fiorita; Dianne Fleischer;
- Feb. 5 Etura Fleming; Sean & Janice Flynn & Family; Robert & Carolyn Flynn & Family;
- Feb. 6 Marcia Folderauer; Scott & Dawn Ford & Family; Danielle Franco; Madeline Franco;
- Feb. 7 Theo Gammie; Sarah Garofalo; Tancy Gemza; Dorreen Gilliland; Esther Gervasoni;
- Feb. 8 Wayne & Doreen Geist & Family; Frank Giarratana & Family; Tom & Kara Gioielli;
- Feb. 9 Richard & Ruth Goetz; Vanessa Grant & Family; Gillian Grozier; Jean Hassen;
- Feb. 10 Russell & Judy Griemsmann; Scott & Michelle Grayson & Family; Jane Hancock;
- Feb. 11 Linda Harrison; Ernest Harrington; Ervie Hawley; Mark & Kathryn Harrison;
- Feb. 12 Lillian Heering; Denise Holl; Virginia Huff; Barbara Hurley; Bill & Vicki Hutchinson;
- Feb. 13 Edith Janesky; Linda Immarigeon; John & Delores Ireland; Catherine Jaber-Kreiger;
- Feb. 14 Philip Jones; Carl & Susan Johnson & Family; Dorothy Johnson; James Johnson;
- Feb. 15 Robert & Leslie Johnson; Robert Johnson; Deborah Kaufmann; Denise Kaufmann;
- Feb. 16 Carol Kelly; Jill Kuhn; Margaret Kelly; Yvonne Kiddoe; Nancy Kincade; Pat Larsen;
- Feb. 17 Shirley Klecha; Sheila Landis; Robert & Linda Kovacs; Roma Landry; Joan Listrum;
- Feb. 18 Adam & Sherry Kyriacou & Family; Rev. Joseph Krasinski & James Hughes;
- Feb. 19 Chris Kuell & Christine DiMeglio & Family; Edmund & LaMorn Lagarto; Ethel Leahey;
- Feb. 20 David Katz & Laura Lee; Kerlen & Letty Lim; Walter & Louise Liston & Family;
- Feb. 21 Lillian McBain; Kathryn Margaitis; Wendi McCabe; Lyn Meyers; Jane McGarry;
- Feb. 22 James & Nneka Maiurro & Family; Anthony & Lisa Marsico & Family; May Molinaro;
- Feb. 23 Harold & Maria McGowan; John & Loretta McLaughlin; Suzanne McLean;
- Feb. 24 Mary McQuade; Mark Meyer & Family; Richard & Jacqueline Miller; Doris Morgan;
- Feb. 25 Margaret Mirabito; Elise Montanari; Kevin & Patricia Morgan;
- Feb. 26 John & Virginia Murphy; Kathleen Mould & Melissa Mould; Elizabeth Mussnug;
- Feb. 27 Alexander Nahas; Mark Myers & Susan Myers-Sarkisian & Family; John O'Hern;
- Feb. 28 Sandra Nichols & Family; Victoria O'Connor & Family; Donald & Maryellen Owens

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The ministry of the people of St. James' Episcopal Church is led by
the Wardens and Vestry and assisted by the Clergy and Staff.

Wardens

Carolyn Flynn
Dan Cox

Treasurer

Linda Spaziani

Clerk

Jane McGarry

Vestry

Lew Westfall (2016)
Janet Brown (2014)
Vicky Crea (2016)
Christel Davis (2015)
Christine DiMeglio (2015)
Judy Griemsmann (2014)
Linda Harrison (2015)
Yvonne Kiddoe (2014)
Jehad Sabbagh (2014)
John Zahner (2016)

Deanery Delegate

Linda Harrison

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The Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Krasinski
joseph@saintjamesdanbury.org

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Joan Giarratano
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Sexton

Jose Lopez Sanz