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Vestry Meeting

Thursday, March 5th

10:30 am



A couple of weeks ago, while camping along the Colorado River, I had the opportunity to spend 5 days in two National Wildlife Refuges taking pictures and basking in the awe of the beauty presented to me. While I took hundreds of pictures, some of the best photo opportunities passed me because the beauty stunned me to the point that I missed the chance to capture it on camera. But these images will never leave my memory. There is a feeling that can not be described when you are able to spend time in the natural beauty that many people only read about. This is why it is so important to me that the diocese has created the position of Canon for Creation Care.

While reviewing and retaking photos for the final draft of the Parish Profile this week, I came across many similar feelings of while in the National Wildlife Refuges. We have had so many fun experiences together where a photograph was never taken. When what we are experiencing is so engaging that no one thinks of taking a photo, this is a great thing. We may not always have the pictures from many of our activities, but what we are experiencing together makes us who we are at St. James.

Peace,
Bob Klassen



Treasurer's Update

January 1 through February 28, 2020

WE HAD AN OPERATING SURPLUS OF \$4,655 THROUGH FEBRUARY 26TH. THANK YOU!! BUT WE DID MISS THE BUDGETED OPERATING INCOME BY QUITE A BIT. REMEMBER THAT THE 2020 BUDGET IS BASED ON PAYING A PERMANENT RECTOR A COMPETITIVE INCOME AND BENEFITS FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR. SO THERE'S NO CAUSE FOR ALARM YET. BUT THE SOONER THE NEW RECTOR STARTS THE CLOSER WE'LL NEED TO BE TO THE BUDGETED INCOME TOTAL.

| | Actual | Budget |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| YTD Operating Income | \$ 31,381 | \$ 43,023 |
| YTD Operating Expense | \$ 26,726 | \$ 43,199 |
| YTD Surplus / (Deficit) | \$ 4,655 | \$ -176 |

I'D ALSO LIKE TO REMIND YOU AGAIN TO PLEASE SEE IF YOU ARE ABLE TO GIVE A LITTLE EXTRA TO THE OUTREACH FUND. IT COSTS \$200 PER MONTH TO DONATE THE MEAL WE SERVE AT THE HALLE WOMEN'S CENTER.

GERRY CARLSTON (PGCARLSTON@COX.NET)
TREASURER

**AT YOUR SERVICE:
YOUR VESTRY**

- Bob Klassen (Senior Warden)
- Larry Kenyon (Junior Warden)
- Gerry Carlston (Treasurer)
- Ann Marie Bellamy-Bartholomew
- Joan Besonen
- Denise Boyd
- Mary Hovden
- Tara Papaccio

The greatness of community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace and a soul generated by love.
-- Coretta Scott King

First Fruits Sunday, March 1st!
We celebrate the first Sunday of each month as First Fruits Sunday. Thanks to all who already bring in non-perishable food items. Your gifts make a difference. This is a great way to put our faith into action, and to continue our Lord's mission to care for, and feed our hungry neighbors.

St. James Monthly Outreach to our hungry neighbors is at the UMOM Halle Shelter. There are 5 spots available each month. Please sign up for our next service evening beginning at **5pm and ending about 6:00pm on Friday, March 13th. The Halle shelter is located at 3424 E. Van Buren Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008.** Anyone who is 13 years and up is welcome to be part of the team. *Also, please remember that if you sign up you are committing to show up, otherwise we'll be short staffed.* If you can't come please arrange for a replacement.

Refugee Ministries

Cruzando Fronteras needs the following medical supplies:

- ✓ Vick's VapoRub or equivalent
- ✓ Robitussin (liquid form)
- ✓ Cough Lozenges/drops (not Ricola)
- ✓ Children's Tylenol - Liquid or tablets
- ✓ Allegra or equivalent allergy medicine
- ✓ Zarbees Children's Cough Syrup (safe for little ones age 2+)
- ✓ Oral dispensing syringes 1cc, 3cc, 5cc & 10cc

Thank you for your ongoing generosity. For questions please contact Dixie Lane, Don Oswald, Ann Marie Bartholomew, or Carol Paulk. Other ways of donating to Border Ministry are monetary or mailing items directly. For more information about these methods of donating, go to: fronteras.azdiocese.org.

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Lenten Meditations

Our Lenten journey began on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. All are invited to share the journey with daily meditations from Episcopal Relief & Development and/or Living Compass. Look for these resources in the narthex, on the table by the main doors:

- ✦ *Lenten Meditations 2020* (ERD) – Produced by Episcopal Relief & Development in partnership with authors of [Grow Christians](#), a resource to teach and nurture the faith in children. This booklet invites daily reflection on the spiritual, physical and emotional lives of children—and our role in nurturing their growth.
- ✦ *Living Well Through Lent 2020* – Practicing Courage with all your heart, soul, strength and mind. This daily devotional provides a foundation for seeking a deeper experience of Lent, an experience that will help prepare us for the true meaning of Easter.
- ✦ Make your Lenten journey more meaningful with one or both of these excellent resources for daily meditation!



STATIONS of the CROSS

Beginning Wednesday, March 4th, we will be doing the Stations of the Cross every Wednesday at 12 noon through Lent. The Readings for the Stations we will use were written by Ruth Burgess and are in the Celtic tradition.

Lenten Quiet Day and Labyrinth Walk

Saturday, March 14 from 9am - 1pm. Pastor Andrea⁺ will lead a quiet day retreat for Lent focusing on the Labyrinth and meditations in the Celtic tradition. We will begin with Morning Prayer from the *loria Abbey Worship book*. There will be a talk on the Labyrinth:

its history, the different forms, the spirituality, and then there will be time to walk the labyrinth here at St James. For those who cannot walk it there will be other options available that give the experience of walking the Labyrinth. Bring along a journal or something to write in to write down your own thoughts and reflections on the day.



2020 MAUNDY THURSDAY FOOT WASHING FLUNGE

St. James is again invited to participate in the foot washing on **Thursday, April 9th**. This year it is planned to be expanded at 1) St. Vincent de Paul and the Human Services campus and 2) St. Vincent de Paul's Sunnyslope Dining Room. We have been asked if we want to not only participate onsite but gather and create "sock sacks" with the following materials: 1pr white socks; 1pr black socks; 1pk pocket tissues; 2 granola bars (or, even better, nutrigrain bars or soft bars); 2 water bottles; Toenail clippers without a file; and paper emory boards we can order from Amazon. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry on April 9th and/or would like to make "sock sacks", please contact Deacon Robin (robin.b.hollis@gmail.com) or at (480) 242-7178 by **Sunday, March 15th**.

We have decided at this time not to do VBS this summer. We hope to be able to offer this program in the future here at St. James.

Here's What's Coming Up!

March 1:

- 830 am Godly Play - Mystery of Easter
- 1030 am Youth Fellowship Live - How can we know the Bible is true?
- 1130 am Burry the Alleluia service

March 8:

No class Spring Break

March 15:

- 830 am Godly Play - Mystery of Easter
- 1030 am EYC (945am breakfast) 1030-1130 EYC

March 22:

- 830 am Godly Play - Mystery of Easter
- 1030 am Youth Fellowship Live - The Anatomy of the Bible.

March 29:

- 830am Godly Play - Mystery of Easter
- 1030 am Youth Fellowship - Old Testament (Part 1)



Upcoming Dates:

- April 4th Making Crosses for Palm Sunday
- April 5th Palm Sunday
- April 7th Tenebrae Youth Service
- 6 pm Rehearsal & Dinner
- 7 pm Service
- April 12th Easter
- Easter Egg Hunt after both services

For more information: Contact Eileen at eflock@cox.net or text her at (480) 586-1124.

One day the Bishop came to call. . .



Congratulations!

During Bishop Reddall's visit on Sunday, February 9th, Ida Beal was **Received** into the Episcopal Faith and Carol Justice **Reaffirmed** her Episcopal faith. Congratulations on your continued spiritual journey! St. James' is blessed by your gifts.

And it was Scout Sunday too!!



You Are Cordially invited to the 8th Annual St. James Ladies Tea



Date: May 2, 2020
 Time: 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.
 We Will Serve: Delightful Tea Sandwiches,
 Dainty Desserts &
 Delicious Tea
 Cost: \$15.00 per person



Our Fancy Hat Contest returns!

A winner will be chosen from each table and then compete to win a fantastic grand prize!

Tickets will go on sale soon. Space is limited so reserve your table early!

Susan Buckley is overseeing the raffle baskets this year and is grateful for all who volunteer to make or contribute to a basket. Our theme this year is "Spring is in the Air!" and below are some ideas. Let your imagination soar! (She would gladly accept gift cards to purchase any of the following items for the baskets):

- ♥ Chocolate Basket
- ♥ Cupcake Basket
- ♥ Tea Basket
- ♥ "Calgon Take Me Away" Basket
- ♥ Book Basket
- ♥ Sock basket
- ♥ Garden Basket
- ♥ Gift Card basket
- ♥ Wine Basket
- ♥ Golf Basket
- ♥ Yoga Basket
- ♥ Ice Cream Sundae Basket
- ♥ Mani - Pedi Basket
- ♥ Little Girl's Basket





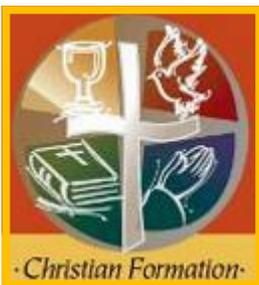
Thanks to all who are bringing food for our bodies after we have received spiritual food from our services. It is so nice for our members to be able to sit, chat, and enjoy each other's company after service with something to drink and something to eat. I think this is a perfect time to thank everyone at St. James for all they do to support all of our spiritual, material, outreach, social, and in-house activities. For such a small congregation, we do so many wonderful things to support the spiritual and mental well-being of each of our parishioners, to support our immediate community and to support our larger global community. There is something here for everyone when and if they wish to participate. We are a great church family with so many willing hands. Thank you all for all you do.....God has truly blessed our St. James Parish.

Fry's Community Rewards Program



Remember that every time you use your VIP card at Fry's, St James gets a percentage (2%) of your sale. If you haven't registered your VIP card for St. James, instructions are available on the flyer in the Narthex. **Our NPO number is NH129.** If you have any questions or problems, Diana will be happy to help. Just bring your VIP card to the office and she can set you up right away. Keep shopping!

Christian Formation For All (CFFA)



We continue our study of *The Way of Love* this month in the library between services at 9:45 am. We will listen to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry talk about "The Way of Love," a subject close to his heart. Our study will begin with questions that will give us an opportunity to reflect on what he says. Since the podcasts are long we will be listening to shorter portions of the podcast each week. One does not necessarily have to attend every session to enjoy the program. All are welcome!

Other CFFA Opportunities

Centering Prayer for spiritual health provides a way to experience God's presence in our lives. All are welcome and invited! **Wednesday afternoon** 3:15-3:45 pm in the library. Find the time to find God's peace.

Women in the Word, our Women's Bible Study group, continues our study of key Bible stories. We meet at 4:00 pm on **Wednesday afternoons** in the sanctuary. All women are welcome!

Ladies Night

Tuesday, March 10th
6:00 pm

Szechwan Garden

5055 W. Ray Road, Chandler, 85226

Come & check out their new remodel and menu, and join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship. Hope to see you there. And bring a friend!

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Join Us for Lunch!!

Thursday, March 26th
11:30 am

Biscuit's

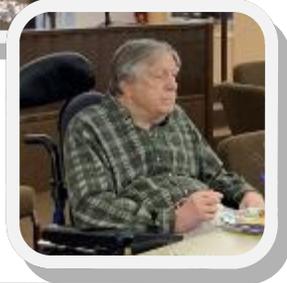
4623 E. Elliot Road, Phoenix
(SW corner 48th & Elliot)

St James Bookies

March's book is "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood. We will meet **Sunday, March 22nd**, after the 10:30 service at la Madeleine French Bakery & Café, 3605 W. Chandler Blvd, Chandler 85226 (between McClintock and Price on the south side of the street).



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



MUSIC CORNER at St James



I was thinking about Easter always falling on a different date every year. It can land anywhere between Mar 23 and Apr 25. I knew it was something to do with moon cycles, but had sort of forgotten, so I looked it up and here is some of the information I found.

Easter is actually determined by the Jewish calendar. In the Bible, the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ happens after the Jewish festival of Passover and followers wanted it to be celebrated as such. However, this is slightly tricky because the Jewish calendar is based on lunar cycles, whereas Christian culture is based on the sun. A solar year is just over 365 days and a lunar year is about 354 days, so collaborating the two can be complicated. Passover also changes every year, because it's calculated by the first full moon following the vernal equinox - a day in spring when night and day are exactly the same length. And the explanation is not even finished there.

With Easter having this variation of time, I think some years we are less ready to get into the 'Spirit' of reflection and prayer which the Lenten season calls for. We always hope that our musical 'message' at this time brings us to a good place of thought and meditation so that we can 'refresh' for the coming of the Easter Celebration!

~ ~ ~ Lali Breen

**2020 Lenten Study:
The Matrix: A Study in Choosing Truth, Redemption & Salvation**

Join us Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:15 pm for a soup supper each Wednesday **beginning March 4th and ending April 1st**. Please sign up so we know how many materials to have available. Find the sign-up sheet back on our Fellowship table.

This five week study is based on the Science Fiction Classic and critically acclaimed 1999 movie *"The Matrix"* (Rated R for Sci-Fi violence & some language). Deacon Robin will lead the study that offers an opportunity for fellowship and bible study through the lens of an allegory while examining how we can learn and apply it in today's world. We will begin with a soup and salad supper followed by the course of study.

The story of *The Matrix* is the first of the trilogy series. The film explores many religious and spiritual elements through an allegorical telling which can be reflected in our technological connected world today. The themes lead us to experience our awakening and knowledge as we choose God's truth. This film stars Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne and Carrie-Anne Moss. A workbook will be provided. Our discussion and reflection will revolve around each week's themes found listed below:

| | | |
|--------|------------|--|
| Week 1 | March 4th | <i>Introduction: Story Overview, "Self-awakening & Knowledge"</i> |
| Week 2 | March 11th | <i>Faith: "Free your mind from fear, doubt, and disbelief"</i> |
| Week 3 | March 18th | <i>Love: "What matters is the connection the word implies"</i> |
| Week 4 | March 25th | <i>Reality & Truth - 'Free Will': "What is the Matrix to you?"</i> |
| Week 5 | April 1st | <i>Spiritual Grace: Spirituality, Redemption, Love and Salvation</i> |

Please feel free to drop in as often as you can. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Robin (robin.b.hollis@gmail.com or (480) 242-7178). See you Wednesdays!

2020 LENT MADNESS IS HERE!! GET YOUR HALO ON!! OPEN TO ALL AGES!!

Learn about these saintly folks, forecast the “winner”, and win the right to direct a donation to any of our St. James’ Ministries! This is a fun and engaging way for a very special kind of Lenten Devotion. Beginning **Thursday after Ash Wednesday (February 27th)**, 32 Saints begin pairings just like the basketball March Madness. You can join the team by picking up one of the free booklets **“The Definitive Guide to Lent Madness 2020: Sainly Scorecard”**. The booklets are back on the sign up table. Each booklet includes a bracket card. Check out the large poster-size bracket and follow the results on a weekly basis. On the back table will be a projected winner sign-up sheet. **Put your name and your pick for the Golden Halo by Sunday, March 22nd** and be in the running to win the right to **designate the Lent Madness Donation Pool** to any of our St. James ministries and of course receive your own “Golden Halo”. Donations can be made by check and note in the memo section: **Lent Madness**. The website for voting, videos, copies of the bracket and more can be found at www.lentmadness.org. For more info, please see Deacon Robin ((480) 242-7178). Get your Halo on!

“To Give Up or to Take On”

Lent has begun and we begin our penitential spiritual journey. In our Episcopal Tradition, it might be a helpful reminder as to what we do and why we do it. On the Episcopal Church website we read: *“Early Christians observed “a season of penitence and fasting” in preparation for the Paschal feast, or Pascha (see Book of Common Prayer, pp. 264-265). The season now known as Lent (from an Old English word meaning “spring,” the time of lengthening days) has a long history. Eventually this fast became attached to, or overlapped, another fast of forty days, in imitation of Christ’s fasting in the wilderness. The forty-day fast was especially important for converts to the faith who were preparing for baptism, and for those guilty of notorious sins who were being restored to the Christian assembly. In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. (YES, that means if you gave up chocolate for Lent, you are able to eat those Girl Scout Thin Mint Cookies on Sunday!) The last three days of Lent are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.(BCP pg. 265).* It’s also helpful to note that Lent can be observed through making of a covenant – by taking on an action as opposed to “giving something up”. One such covenant (or promise) might be to read a Psalm each day or read some a chapter in the Bible or even be faithful in prayer each day. There are a number of online resources to help us with this as well and Forward Day By Day has a number of options. So, take a few minutes and find what will work for you that can enhance this Lenten period and bring us closer to God and each other.

Blessings,
Deacon Robin



Acolyte Schedule for March 2020

| DATE | 8:30 am Service | 10:30 am Service |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2020 March 1 | Elliot | Brandon |
| March 8 | Pam | Careen |
| March 15 | Damien | Janet |
| March 22 | John Barnabas | Linda |
| March 29 | Pam | Allison |