

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."

Isaiah 9:2

Advent: A season with opportunities

Advent and Lent are known as the penitential seasons of the Christian year. It is a time for personal reflection and preparation for major events. God's manifestation in our lives.

At St. James you will find opportunities to experience the advent season in new ways. I pray that some of these events will shine a new light or new understanding of your mission in the *Missio Dei* (God's Mission).

We will have Sunday devotions for the advent wreath, and we invite you to do the same at home with your family members. The resource for the advent wreath ritual can be found on our website. The themes and order of the candles varies accordingly your choice.

During Advent we will have two special guests visiting us: Rev. Canon Jana Sundin and the theologian Dr. Paul Crego.

Rev. Jana will be addressing the importance of Children and Youth ministries in our local communities. The discussion is a first step on the conversation about Christian Formation and what should be the focus for next year.

Dr. Paul Crego is a member of the Commission on Ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. He recently retired from his position at the Library of Congress. With strong knowledge of the Orthodox traditions, he will be with us for a conversation on the *Filioque* question. That is just one of the Advent Series meetings happening through December. (Please see inside this flyer for the dates and times for the Advent series).

The Third Sunday of Advent also carries its own uniqueness. That is *Gaudate* Sunday. The Sunday that communicates joy and hope, particularly expressed in the person of a pregnant woman. The Virgin Mary has received many names through the centuries and through the cultures. In 2021, we will address one manifestation in particular, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Guadalupe carries in her body many dimensions of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The third Sunday of Advent will have expressions of the Marian devotion in our worship. At the Coffee Hour we will taste the feast with traditional Mexican sweet tamales and music.

During Advent your generosity will serve families and individuals in need. How can we celebrate the arrival of the God-child without sharing our gifts with those in need? Inside of this bulletin you will find outreach projects that would benefit from your support.

Finally, this year three holy days: Christmas Eve candlelight and caroling with Eucharist, Christmas Day with the beautiful Ritual of Blessing of the Nativity Creche, and Sunday morning we will celebrate the First Sunday.

This is a marvelous season to open our hearts to be touched by God's presence through the mystery of God's Incarnated Word. Come with your family; bring your friends to celebrate this mystery.

Fr. Sam Dessórdi Leite*

Nurturing Youth and Children's Ministry

Our special welcome to Rev. Jana Sundin, the diocesan Canon for Children and Youth ministry. Rev. Jana is our guest preacher today. She will also hold a conversation about youth and children's ministry during Coffee Hour. We are invited to be with her in the church nave to learn about the diocesan projects and possible opportunities and projects for St. James. Please, stay with us a little longer and let's open our hearts for the possibility of involving more families with children and teens in our community.



Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please remember Trinity Church in Kingman.

Please Pray for our Church Family. . . . Janey, Gerry, Dana, Kristy, Carrie, Simon, Patti, the Muller family, the Spence family, Sandra, Robert, the Hollis family, the Huls family, Luke, Rob, Jeff, Chris, the Papaccio family, Eileen, Susan, Ruby, Nancy, Jim, Denise, Damien, Meghan, Quillan, Kathy, Debbi and Isaiah, our siblings & families in Navajoland, those affected by COVID-19 and our front line medical providers, Becki, Tessa, Pat, Ashley, Damien, Donald and Lynn. We acknowledge, pay respect and pray for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community as the original people of the land and their role as custodians of this land given to them by our one and only Creator God. We pray for all affected by violence, terrorism & natural disaster, and we pray for those in the military. We pray also that God will send us those who are hungry to know and follow Jesus, that we might welcome & walk with them on their spiritual journey.

TODAY AT ST JAMES

9:30 am Holy Eucharist (Rite II) *(With hymns and contemporary songs)*

10:30 pm Fellowship (please take food & drink out onto the patio)

Welcome to our visitors! Please sign our guest book located on the lectern in the narthex by the main entrance and join us for refreshments after the service. We offer nursery care and children's programs that provide safe, nurturing environment for your children during both services.

This is the Lord's Table. All are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms over your chest.

WHERE TO TURN FOR HELP OR ANSWERS....

Father Sam* is available to answer your questions, to respond to pastoral concerns, to offer support and counseling, and, most of all, to listen. My door is always open! You can reach me at the office, or after hours on my cell phone: (510) 847-0229, or email at rector@stjamestempe.org.

Officers of St. James: Bob Klassen, (480) 225-3342 or bob.klassen@gmail.com; Steve Vanden Heuvel, (303) 688-0550 or SteveQE@gmail.com; and Gerry Carlston, (480) 678-2710 or pgcarlston@cox.net.

Prayer Chain: Call Diana in the office, (480) 345-2686.

Pastoral Care: Please call the office, (480) 345-2686.

Godly Play/Children & Youth Ministries: Eileen Flock, (480) 586-1124 or eflock@cox.net.

Ministry of Music:

Would you like to join the choir? Please contact our Lali Breen, (480) 205-5635 or lb.dbstrings@gmail.com;

Parish Nurse: Patricia Maybee, pmaybee@gmail.com.

LAST WEEK AT ST. JAMES:

Worship Attendance: 42

Giving -
\$ 1233 (Operating)
\$ 570 (Designated Gifts)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Baruch 5:1-9
Canticle 16
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

YTD Operating Income: \$ 217,454 (as off 10/31/2021)
YTD Operating Expenses: \$ 178,710 Surplus/Loss: \$ 38,744

St. James Episcopal Church
Welcoming, loving and serving all God's children



**The First Sunday of
Advent**
November 28, 2021

The Rev. Dr. Sam Dessórdi Leite, Rector

The Rev. Dr. Robin Hollis, Deacon

975 E. Warner Road ☩ Tempe, AZ 85284
(480) 345-2686

www.stjamestempe.org ☩ office@stjamestempe.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Around the Community

COFFEE HOUR: Join us after the service! It is important for us to remember that we will still be wearing masks and following the social distancing guidelines already set forth. We ask that you take your coffee and food outside to the patio area.

DIANA WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE Wednesday & Thursday this week. Please direct any questions or concerns to Father Sam, (510) 847-0229 or Bob Klassen, (480) 225-3342.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY: We invite you to join our group meeting in the St. James Library on **Monday evenings, 6:30 to 9 pm.** For more information, please contact Mary Jane Porter, mjp4@cornell.edu or (480) 625-4369.

ZOOM CENTERING PRAYER: Wednesday's at 2:45 pm.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/91094533152?](https://zoom.us/j/91094533152?pwd=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWhOUT09)

[pwd=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWhOUT09](https://zoom.us/j/91094533152?pwd=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWhOUT09)

Meeting ID: 910 9453 3152 Password: 654769

IT'S NOT TOO LATE HELP OUR TREASURER!!! Thanks to all who already submitted their 2022 pledge cards. Our budget committee will meet soon. It's not too late to complete and turn in your pledge card! If you've lost yours, extra copies are available in the narthex. Thanks!

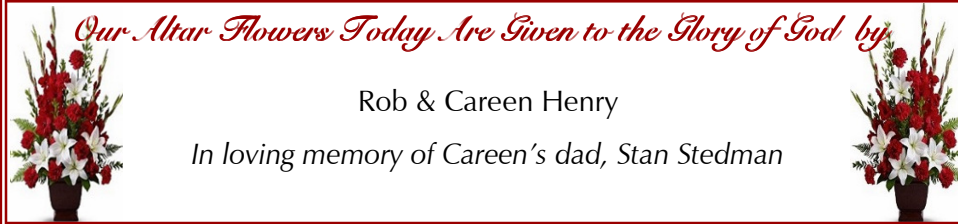
Ministry Opportunities

UMOM HOLIDAY DRIVE: The Halle Women's Shelter is the only comprehensive homeless shelter dedicated to single women experiencing homelessness. UMOM's Women's Auxiliary is collecting new pajama sets (larger women's sizes 1X – 4X in particular) and plush throws (single or double bed size only). **They will collect them from now until about the 1st of December.** There will be a collection box in the office reception area. If you have any questions, please contact Ellie Kenyon at (480) 248-7457 or by email at ejkenyon6315@verizon.net.

ANGEL TREE 2021: Due to her recent surgery, Eileen is looking for some help with making the deliveries to the Angel Tree Families this year. She will arrange with each family on a delivery date and give them a time frame when someone needs to be at the home to receive the gifts. If you are able to help with deliveries please contact Eileen Flock at eflock@cox.net with the dates you are able to help with the deliveries. **Delivery dates:** December 11, 12, 18 & 19. Thank you for all your help and support with this wonderful outreach program!



What's Happening at St. James?



Coming Soon...

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH! We celebrate the first Sunday of each month as First Fruits Sunday. Thanks to all who already bring in non-perishable food items. St. Stephen's has been experiencing a huge increase in people looking for help so our contributions are greatly appreciated, especially at this time of year. Let's put our faith into action, and care for & feed our hungry neighbors.

LADIES NIGHT OUT: See you at 6:00 pm on **Tuesday, December 9th** at RigaTony's Italian Restaurant, 1850 E. Warner Road, Tempe, 85284. If you haven't come before please join us for a fun evening of food and fellowship. Hope to see you there!! And bring a friend! For the safety and health of everyone it is asked that you be fully vaccinated to attend.

OUR MEN'S GROUP will meet for lunch for those fully vaccinated fellows on **Thursday, December 16th** at 11:30 am at Biscuit's, 4623 E. Elliot Road, Phoenix 85044.

ST JAMES BOOKIES: December's book is "The Heart's Invisible Furies" by Jack Boyne. We will meet **Sunday, December 19th** after the 9:30 service in the St. James library. Please bring a "White Elephant" book (wrapped) for a Christmas gift exchange. Max value \$15.



THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held **Friday, December 24th** at 6:30 pm. The Christmas Eucharistic service with Blessing of the Creche ritual will be held **Saturday, December 25th** at 10:30 am. We will celebrate the 1st Sunday of Christmas **Sunday, December 26th** at 9:30 am.

ACOLYTE SPECIAL TRAINING SERIES: We are in need of those called to serve as acolytes! No previous experience necessary. **Adults especially are encouraged to join us.** This training series is designed to better understand this ministry and to allow us to 'practice' how we best serve. The training will be done as a two-part training. We encourage everyone who assists as acolytes to attend. **Saturday, January 15th** and **Saturday, January 22nd**, from 10 am to noon at St. James. If you feel called to serve or would like more information about this ministry, please contact Deacon Robin (deacon@stjamestempe.org or (480) 242-7178). Thank you!!

All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry on to the church campus or in to any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.

Meditation Verse

"Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long."

Psalm 29:4

Advent Series

Advent is a season for prayer, meditation, and study. This year we will have the symbolism of the Advent Wreath helping our journey towards Incarnation. The Advent series will present theologies related to the devotion of the wreath and the season of Advent. These study series will be online only, over ZOOM. Thursdays: 6pm to 7pm.

December 2: Why an Advent Wreath? And how these symbols help us encounter God in the world?

December 9: Mary, aka, Our Lady of Guadalupe. The saint that speaks the language of the peoples.

December 16: "Who proceeds from the Father," – The Filioque question, with the theologian Dr. Paul Crego.

No registration is necessary.

The ZOOM link is below and will be available in the weekly emails.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83416869606?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83416869606?pwd=dDJlOVJYZTJUZnkyYTdyRlBOK3RtUT09)

[pwd=dDJlOVJYZTJUZnkyYTdyRlBOK3RtUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83416869606?pwd=dDJlOVJYZTJUZnkyYTdyRlBOK3RtUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 1686 9606 Passcode: 732783

Around the Diocese

FIRST FRIDAY'S AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL: **Friday, December 3rd** from 6 pm to 9 pm in the Onley Gallery. The featured exhibit this month is *Trinity Cathedral Centennial Photo Exhibit*. Over 36 images and documents covering 100 years of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Phoenix will be displayed. Photographs include different construction stages of the Cathedral, Easter and Christmas in the 40s and 50s, the original church at 2nd Ave and Washington in the 1800s, Duke Ellington at the cathedral in the 60s, 70s fashions, the manufacture of the unique carved stained-glass windows, and the devastating fire of 2002. To see a timeline of the history of Trinity Cathedral, visit this webpage: <https://trinitycathedral.com/centennial-timeline/>.

GIVING CASH? For the past several weeks, a cash donation has been offered without a name on the envelope. Please remember to put your name on your envelope especially when giving cash. Our envelopes are NOT numbered so writing your name on your envelope is necessary to properly record your cash contribution. Thanks!