

## Sacredness of Time, Sacredness of Life

### Blessing of a New Season

Many years ago, my mom would let me sleep at my grandmother's. Generally, in the summertime. Warm weather. Windows open to let the fresh air in. The curtains would flow over my bed. And from the bedroom I could hear the old clock in the living room ticking through the night. On a steady pace the clock would say to me: Tempus Fugit. Tempus Fugit. (Time flies) As a child the sound would relax me and let me dream about things and places that I haven't reached yet.



Promises that God walk with me to new adventures and new seasons in life.

I believe I kept that childhood spirit, of the belief that our time, in essence belongs to God. The Alpha and Omega of all things.

Humanity always found it necessary to count time and make every season of life sacred. It is in our DNA -- the need of marking time, even nature does that. The tides of the sea, the movement of the Earth.

While we begin this New Year of 2022, I pray that God is with our church family of St. James the Apostle. And pray that each one of us encounter God in our daily lives through the next year. Our time isn't our own, but a gift from our divine Creator. Keep your eyes and heart centered on Christ in this new year.

Fr. Sam Dessórdi Leite<sup>+</sup>

#### "Giving Thanks for His Example"

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us" (John 1:14)

As we continue to meditate on the incarnation of God as Jesus Christ, let us give thanks for Jesus' example and strive to cultivate the virtue of humility. Everything we have comes from Him.

**Share the good news for generations - make a legacy gift to St. James.**

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Please pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Please remember the Church of the Transfiguration in Mesa.

**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, Damien, Megan, Quillan, Laurie, Ellen, Barbara and Stephanie, 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<sup>+</sup> 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: 34

Giving -  
\$ 1913 (Operating)  
\$ 5205 (Designated Gifts)

#### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

YTD Operating Income: \$ 234,902 (as off 11/30/2021)  
YTD Operating Expenses: \$ 190,741 Surplus/Loss: \$ 44,051

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

He took the young Child  
and His mother by night  
and departed for Egypt so  
that the Lord's words might  
be fulfilled...

**Out of Egypt  
I called  
My Son.**

Matthew 2:15

*January 2, 2022*

**The Rev. Dr. Sam Dessórdi Leite, Rector**

The Rev. Dr. Robin Hollis, Deacon

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(480) 345-2686

www.stjamestempe.org ☩ office@stjamestempe.org

Office Hours:

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

## Around the Community

**FIRST FRUITS SUNDAY, TODAY!** 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.

**COFFEE HOUR:** Due to the increasing rate of COVID cases (Omicron variant) and after consulting with our Hospitality team, **Coffee Hour is canceled for today and for all the Sundays in January.** It is also important for us to remember that we will still be wearing masks and following the social distancing guidelines already set forth in the diocesan guidelines.

**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](mailto: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=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWwOUT09)

[pwd=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWwOUT09](https://zoom.us/j/91094533152?pwd=S3FwNTZxZEwrSVdYRFRoVEF0bWwOUT09)

Meeting ID: 910 9453 3152 Password: 654769

## This... and That...

**NEED A NOTARY?** Diana has finally received her new notary stamp!! If you require a notary service, please see Diana in the church office. Her hours are 9 am to 3 pm Monday - Thursday and she will be happy to assist you.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE HELP OUR TREASURER!!!** Thanks to all who already submitted their 2022 pledge cards. Our budget committee will meet soon to finalize our 2022 budget. 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 or online.

**MANAGE YOUR GIFTS WITH TITHE-LY:** We have electronic giving available through the St. James website. This is particularly useful for those who are taking vacations and want their giving to continue uninterrupted, or for those who prefer the ease and simplicity of electronic giving. To set up and manage your on-line gifts, please go to our website, [www.stjamestempe.org](http://www.stjamestempe.org) and click on the yellow "Donate" button. You may then choose to give via Tithe-ly or PayPal. Thank you for your generous support.

*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.*

## What's Happening at St. James?

### Coming Soon...

**LADIES NIGHT OUT:** See you at 6:00 pm on **Tuesday, January 11th** at the Perfect Pear Bistro, 9845 S. Priest Drive, 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.

**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](mailto:deacon@stjamestempe.org) or (480) 242-7178). Thank you!!

**ST JAMES BOOKIES:** January's book is "A Spark of Light" by Jodi Picoult. We will meet **Sunday, January 16th** after the 9:30 service in the library.

**OUR MEN'S GROUP** will meet for lunch for those fully vaccinated fellows on **Thursday, January 27th** at 11:30 am at Biscuit's, 4623 E. Elliot Road, Phoenix 85044.



**SAVE THE DATE** for our Annual Meeting which will be held on **Sunday, February 6th, 2022.** We'll elect new members to the Vestry, review the 2022 budget, and celebrate all the great ministries in God's service here at St. James. Look for more details regarding time and format soon.

## Ministry Opportunities

**PASTORAL CARE TEAM MINISTRY 2022:** The ministry of our St. James Lay Pastoral Care Team is an important way for us to provide care, connection, and support to those in need. Working with our clergy, there are a number of pastoral care roles we can explore. If you feel called to serve as a member of the Pastoral Care Team (Lay Eucharistic Visitors), please contact Deacon Robin. Introduction and training for this ministry will be conducted after the first of the year. Also, in order to participate, the Diocese requires that those in the ministry complete the Safeguarding God's Children and God's People training. This training is completed online through a number of modules and done at your own pace. Many of our St. James' members have completed this already. Once you speak with Father Sam or Deacon Robin to confirm your interest in participating, we will share more information about this part of the training. Thank you in advance for helping with this important ministry. Questions: Deacon Robin (480) 242-7178 or [deacon@stjamestempe.org](mailto:deacon@stjamestempe.org).

## Meditation Verse

*"How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of  
the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God."*

*Psalm 84:1*

## Christmas at St. James



### OUR 2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES HAVE ARRIVED!!

They are on the table in the Narthex. Please feel free to take a box home with you! These envelopes are not numbered, so please remember to put your name on your envelope **especially when giving cash.** Writing your name on your envelope is necessary to properly record your cash contribution. Thanks!