



# *The Letter of Saint James'*

*St. James' Episcopal Church*

*Pray Hope Dream*

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

***LENTEN SPECIAL EDITION***

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## **Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday – March 6**

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting.

This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

**I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent**, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

*Book of Common Prayer Ash Wednesday Service p. 264*

### **Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes          noon & 7 pm**

Come join us for this time-honored tradition of beginning the season of Lent with a litany of prayers, imposition of ashes, a brief homily, and Eucharist.

\* \* \* \*

*And of course, all are invited to come prepare for Lent with our  
Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner /Tuesday March 5  
Beginning at 5 pm -*

## How Might We Have an Intentional Lent *from your Interim*



As Christians – followers of Jesus’ Way of Love – we are sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ’s own forever. Nothing can keep us from the love of God. That is one of our most fundamental and foundational Christian beliefs. And yet, many of us have a difficult time living into that truth and offering it to others because we struggle to claim that truth for ourselves.

There are so many life-distractions that get in our way of hearing and knowing that we each are God’s Beloved with any great certainty. How often do we measure our worthiness to be loved based on our looks, jobs, incomes, or what others think of us? How often does conflict arise out of a need to find power-over others to make ourselves feel better? At the end of the day, all of these measures of self-worth can leave us feeling “less than” or feeling as though we haven’t done enough. And then God’s life-giving command to *love others as we love ourselves* bears sour fruit.

I have to admit that when I allow myself to get overly busy and distracted, I experience a vacuum in connecting with God’s presence and love. And yet, this love is the one thing that grounds me in the knowledge that who I am is a beloved child of God and what I do is enough for God. I have to wonder how many of you struggle with the distractions of life that might get in the way of your own awareness of God’s presence and care in your life? We all need intentional time, effort, space, and support to listen for and hear God’s whispered words of kindness and deep love for us. When we truly know and believe that we each are important to God and that God’s presence and life are deeply embedded within us, then we begin to look at ourselves and each other differently. We don’t have to live afraid of failing or of not being enough. And we don’t have to live being afraid of others God puts in our midst, *for the purpose of teaching us about real love*. We don’t have to be afraid of being who we are, who God has created each of us to be – wholly lovable and loved, AND entirely capable of sharing that love with others in need of that same assurance.

So, **I invite you to an intentional observance of a holy Lent**, not as a time of self-deprecation, (so often what we once were taught Lent is about) rather as an intentional six weeks of pausing to quiet ourselves, to hear and listen differently to the truth Jesus came to share, the love Jesus offers to each of us, and the power we have been given to live into that love and heal our broken world.

***Remember that you are LOVE  
and unto LOVE you shall return***

***Lenten Offerings  
for your  
Consideration***

**ERD Daily Lenten Devotionals are Available**

Episcopal Relief and Development Lenten Meditations – Working Together for Lasting Change – *Stories about our global world connections and how we can enter into world views different from ours*

**Preaching Series in Lent –  
Hearing Anew - Our Baptismal Covenant  
within the context of racial reconciliation**

- Sunday March 10**    *“Will you continue in fellowship, worship, and prayer?”*  
**Sunday March 17**    *“Will you forgive others as God has forgiven you?”*  
**Sunday March 24**    *“Will you proclaim the Good News of God in Christ?”*  
**Sunday March 31**    *“Will you love your neighbor as yourself?”*  
**Sunday April 7**        *“Will you stand up for the belovedness of all?”*

**Growing in Faith – Dwelling in the Word  
Mondays at 6:30 pm**



**Quiet Day – Saturday March 16  
10 am – 2 pm  
with Labyrinth walk and guided  
meditations  
(individual spiritual direction sessions also  
available)**

## Music Ministry During Lent and Easter



The first concert of our 2019 Red Doors Concert Series features the award-winning Danbury Mad Hatters Chorus directed by Joseph Hudson. This is an a cappella chorus of 30+ men from the Danbury area. They will entertain us with Irish music and traditional barbershop harmonies.

Please invite your family, neighbors, and friends! There will be a free-will offering taken to help fund our Red Doors Concerts.

### CHORISTERS SCHEDULE

The Church School Choristers will be singing and ringing their bells several times this spring. Here is the proposed schedule of rehearsals and worship services in which they will be singing.

- **Sing** during 10am worship service on **March 3rd** (bury Alleluias day) - warm up rehearsal at 9:30am in sanctuary that day.
- **Rehearse** (in sanctuary following 10am worship service) **March 10, 17, 24**
- **Sing** during **10 am Family Worship** service on **March 31** - warm up rehearsal at 9:30am in sanctuary that day.
- **Rehearse** (in sanctuary following 10am worship service) **March 31, April 7, April 14**
- **Sing** during 10am **EASTER** service on **April 21** - warm up at 9:30am in sanctuary that day.

**THE MONTAGE QUARTET** will be returning to enhance our worship on Sunday, March 24 at 10am. Deidra Woodend sings with this quartet and is arranging for them to sing several pieces for us. You may remember the Latin Mass they sang for us in the past. Please join us in welcoming them!

**HOLY WEEK/EASTER CHOIR** will begin rehearsing on **Thursday, March 28th at 7:30pm in the Choir Room**. Please join the Chancel Choir as we prepare for this most holy season.

## Make a Lenten Gift?



Here at Saint James' we are deep into the process of Transition. We Pray, Hope and Dream for our parish, our next rector, and our work of sharing God's love. While St. James' is facing changes, we hear news about migrant caravans headed to the US border, with many fleeing turmoil in Honduras. Yet in the midst of all these changes, excitement, uncertainty, fears and hopes, life carries on as usual for **Maria de Jesus Roque and El Hogar.**

Maria is now 10 years old. She celebrated her birthday on January 1, 2019 – how fun that she shares a birthday in common with our beloved Pat Larsen.

### Mission Trip

This year, El Hogar celebrates 40 years of providing care and education to Honduran children. It is more important than ever that they succeed in raising up stable, healthy, well-educated, well-trained Honduran citizens who are ready to serve God in their communities. This is one of the reasons we continue our ministry with them and with Maria. **We are beginning to consider a Service Trip to Honduras.** Jason Lang is the communications director of El Hogar Ministries, Inc. He is committed to helping us find a speaker to talk about Service Teams that travel to El Hogar. If our parish is not able to host an entire team, El Hogar, Inc. will work with us to match up the few parishioners who would want to go with another team. We hope to have a speaker in place for September, 2019.

**How YOU can help Maria? Today, our combined blessings total \$4000.** We only need \$1400 more to meet our commitment to our God-child, Maria for 2019! Breaking it down, we need 35 people from our parish to give \$40 to meet our goal. That is equivalent to:

A nice pair of shoes, on sale at DSW

An Amazon dot, with a smart plug

Four bottles of your favorite table wine

Some can give more and will. Some can give less and will.

**Working together, as God intends, we are one parish sponsoring one child.**

If God is calling you to share in this ministry, make your check payable to St. James' with El Hogar in the memo and send it to the church office (25 West Street, Danbury, CT 06810). For more information contact **Christine DiMeglio** at 203-730-8884 or, [Christine.dimeglio@yale.edu](mailto:Christine.dimeglio@yale.edu)

**CANVAS PAINT & SIP FUNDRAISER/March 22, 6-9 pm**

***Sponsored by Friday with Friends***

***Come and Support Maria De Jesus***

***Bring a Friend, your favorite drink, and appetizer to share***

***\$40.00 - Adults only***

***Seat Reservation: [welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org](mailto:welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org) or 203-748-3561***

**March Mission Envelopes: ARC Peace Camp**

**Scholarships for July Camp**

Children will have fun making new friends as they visit five different sacred sites in our community and meet with religious leaders

**Especially for Kids!**

***The Lenten Pretzel!***



Pretzels had their beginning around 610 A.D. somewhere in Southern France or Northern Italy. A young monk was preparing unleavened bread for Lent, the Christian period of fasting and penitence before Easter. This was a simple bread made of flour and water because no eggs, lard or dairy products were consumed during the Lenten fast. Christians of the day prayed with their arms folded across their chests, each hand on the opposite shoulder. It occurred to him that he could twist the leftover dough from the bread into this shape and use it as a treat for the children to recite their prayers. He named his creation 'pretiola,' Latin for 'little reward.'

**The shape of the pretzel represents hands crossed in prayer over one's heart, a practice especially encouraged during Lent.**

**Pretzel Recipe**

1 Tb honey or sugar	1 package yeast
1 1/2 Cups lukewarm water	1 tsp salt
4 Cups flour	1 egg, beaten
Course or kosher salt	

Add honey to the water; sprinkle in the yeast and stir until dissolved.

Add salt, blend in the flour and knead the bread until smooth.

Cut dough into pieces. Roll them into ropes and twist into pretzel shapes (keep a consistent size so they cook at the same rate).

Place on lightly greased cookie sheets. Brush with beaten egg. Sprinkle with course salt. Bake at 425 for 12-15 minutes until pretzels are golden brown.

# Season of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation

At our 2018 Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) clergy and lay delegates passed the resolution, “ **Affirming Racial Justice, Healing and Reconciliation** .” This resolution was informed by the concerted efforts of the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network and the work undertaken by our ECCT Leadership Gathering (Mission Council, Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, and

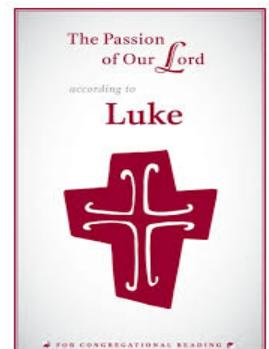
Donations & Bequests) in response to the 2017 Annual Convention resolution, “ Affirming Racial Reconciliation. ”

During Lent, we, at St. James’, will join our brothers and sisters by engaging in conversations about the ways in which our Baptismal Covenant leads us to acknowledge our brokenness and become freed to heal the divisions that divide us, one from another.

*(An excerpt to ponder from conversations already happening) I cannot understand the experiences of people of color. I don’t know what it’s like to walk out of my house every day in fear. I have never had to have “the talk” with my sons: “Don’t put the hood up on your sweatshirt; if you’re stopped just get out of the car, put your hands on the roof and spread your legs, because you just might get shot for that faulty tail light.” The irony is that Jesus, the woman at the well, Muhammad and Abraham were people of color. St. Paul most assuredly had brown skin. So what do I do? First, I must listen. Second, I must search my soul, discover where the racism is in me. Third, when I become aware, I must act. The Rev. William Barber says: “We must learn how our issues intersect in a comprehensive moral agenda that demands transformation of everyone – not least, of us.” Of me.*

## SIGN UP FOR READING OF PASSION GOSPELS

On the Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) we read the Passion Gospel “in parts”. Many of the parts are very short and perfect for those who are not our traditional Lectors and yet have always wanted to try on that role. And it makes a great difference in hearing the Story anew when we have different voices. Please speak with Rev. Lisa if you are willing to take part.

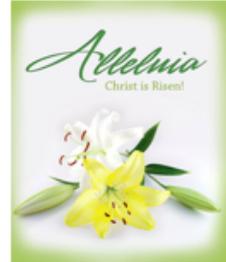


**BOOK OF LOVING  
REMEMBRANCE  
AT EASTER**

We are now accepting names for Easter flowers for our Book of Loving Remembrance. Forms and envelopes are included with the printed copy of the Lenten newsletter and are also available at the rear of the Church. Names are due in the office **NO LATER THAN March 31<sup>th</sup>.**

**EASTER FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH**

If you wish to make a donation toward Easter flowers for the Church, please PRINT your information below, add your contribution (checks made out to St. James'), and **return each to the church office no later than March 31<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**



In loving memory of

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In thanksgiving of

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Amount of donation \_\_\_\_\_

Given by

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**Please add phone or email below in case the office has questions. Thank you.**

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# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

<b>April 14th</b> <b>Sunday of the Passion</b> <b>(Palm Sunday)</b>	
8:00 AM	Blessing of the Palms, reading of the Passion during the Eucharist
9:45 AM	Ecumenical Blessing of the Palms at City Hall
10 AM	The Passion Eucharist
<b>April 18th</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Eucharist and stripping of the altar
8:30 PM	Keeping The Watch in the Chapel through Good Friday morning
<b>April 19th</b> <b>Good Friday</b>	
Noon	Stations of the Cross
7 pm	Good Friday Liturgy with Eucharist from the Reserved Sacraments
<b>April 20th</b> <b>Saturday</b>	
7:30 pm	Joint Easter Vigil @ St. Thomas, Bethel
<b>April 21st</b> <b>Sunday of the Resurrection</b>	
8 and 10 AM	The Festival Eucharist of Easter

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**

Joe Walkovich  
Janet Brown

**Treasurer**

Linda Spaziani

**Clerk**

Sandra Nichols

**Vestry**

Class of 2022

Deborah Kaufmann  
Jehad Sabbagh  
Gary Rogers

Class of 2020

Beth Cox  
Susie Sarkisian  
Victoria Woody

Class of 2021

Carolyn Flynn  
Lyn Meyers  
Jeanne Todaro

**ECCT Convention Delegates**

Dan Cox & Marion Liberati

**Interim Priest-in-Charge**

The Rev. Dr. Lisa D. Hahneman. Tel. Ext. 14  
ldhahneman@sbcglobal.net

**Deacon**

The Reverend Carolyn Legg  
sealeg@sbcglobal.net

**Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper**

Dilsa Quade. Tel. Ext. 10

**Director of Religious Education**

Kerry Santoro. Tel. Ext. 17  
dre@saintjamesdanbury.org

**Director of Music**

Joanne F. Archibald. Tel. Ext. 16  
joanearchibald@saintjamesdanbury.org

**Sexton**

Jose Lopez Sanz

**REMINDER**

There are no altar flowers during the season of Lent



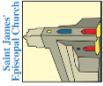
**PARISH CYCLE OF PRAYER – March & April 2019**

***"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:

Jacky Fountain & Jeffrey Butler; Rita Butler; Jeffrey & Nicole Callan  
Suzanne Carley; Valentina Carrasquillo; Violet Chase; John & Vivien Cheeseman  
Jeffrey Chowanec; Charles & Linda Clapp; Stephen & Amanda Huntley  
Robert & Laura Consiglio & Family; Tiwana Council, Beth & Dan Cox & Family  
James Cooks; Michael & Pamela Cummings; Wendy DaCosta  
Kathleen Dannenhoffer; Karen Davidson; Ruth Davis; Jeffrey & Denise Day  
DeStefano Family; Barbara DeVeaux; Anthony & Nanci DiPerrio; Emily Disney  
Joe Dobbins; Bridgett Downer; Roderick & Alexandra Edwards  
Elizabeth Egan; David & Marcella Emerito; Margaret Emerito; Harold & Josette Eynon  
Sean & Rebecca Fanning & Family; Anne Felizardo, Eugene & Shirley Fernekes  
Shirley Ferrarone; Randall & Elizabeth Fescue; Joseph & Sally Fiorita  
Etura Fleming; Robert & Carolyn Flynn; Jason & Meghan Flynn & Family  
Sean & Janis Flynn & Family; Marcia Folderauer; Scott & Dawn Ford  
Helen Gallo; Theo Gammie; Wayne & Doreen Geist; Tancy Gemza; Madeline Franco  
Francis & Judith Toth; Carole Conaway; Lillian Heering; Dick & Mary Lou Johntson  
Frank Giarratana & Family; Melissa & Nicholas Gieda & Family; Doreen Gilliland  
Richard & Ruth Goetz; Vanessa Grant & Family; Scott & Michelle Grayson & Family  
Barbara Greene; Russell & Judith Griemsmann; Karen Haddad; Dianne Fleischer  
Erland Hagman; Cheryl Harewood; Ernest Harrington & Lyn Meyers; John Morris  
Linda Harrison, Mark & Kathryn Harrison & Family; Jean Hassen  
Dorothy Hoagg; John Hofmann; Denise Holl; Virginia Huff;  
William & Vicki Hutchinson; Linda Immarigeon; Delores Ireland; Lillian Heering  
Catherine Jaber-Kreiger; Edith Janesky; Carl & Susan Johnson; Catherine Johnson  
Amanda Johnson; James Johnson; Robert Johnson; Robert & Leslie Johnson  
Deborah Kaufmann; Denise Kaufmann; Carol Kelly; Margaret Kelly  
Yvonne Kiddoe; Nancy Kinkade; Nancy Haplin; Stephen & Amanda Huntley & Family  
Clair Rundhaug; Sandra Nichols; Christopher Kuell & Cristine DiMeglio  
Nicholas Kuell; Grace Kuell; Harry & Jill Kuhn; Adam & Sherry Kyriacou & Family  
Kevin & Susan Lally; Sheila & Richard Landis; Roma Landry; Pat Larsen  
Ethel Leahey; Laura Lee & David Katz; Daniel & Marion Liberati; Kerlen & Letty Lim  
Walter & Louise Liston & Family; Lillian MacBain; Francis Mann & Maureen Bent



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