



St. James Episcopal Church

Messenger

Visit our website

*Our mission is to preach the Gospel, worship God,
renew our hearts and minds, and serve others.*



LENTEN PROGRAMS:

- Saturday, March 16th 11am-1pm Soup & Bread
"Looking at Scripture from Both Sides Now"
- Saturday, March 23rd 11am-1pm in the Parish Hall Soup and Bread
"Everything You Wanted to Know About Baptism but Did Not Know to Ask"

SPECIAL UPCOMING SERVICES:

- March 24th—*Palm Sunday* 8am & 10:30am
- March 28th—*Maundy Thursday* 5:30pm
- March 29th—*Good Friday* 12pm
- March 31st—*Easter Sunday* 8am & 10:30am

Morning Prayer



Join Father Jim for
Morning Prayer

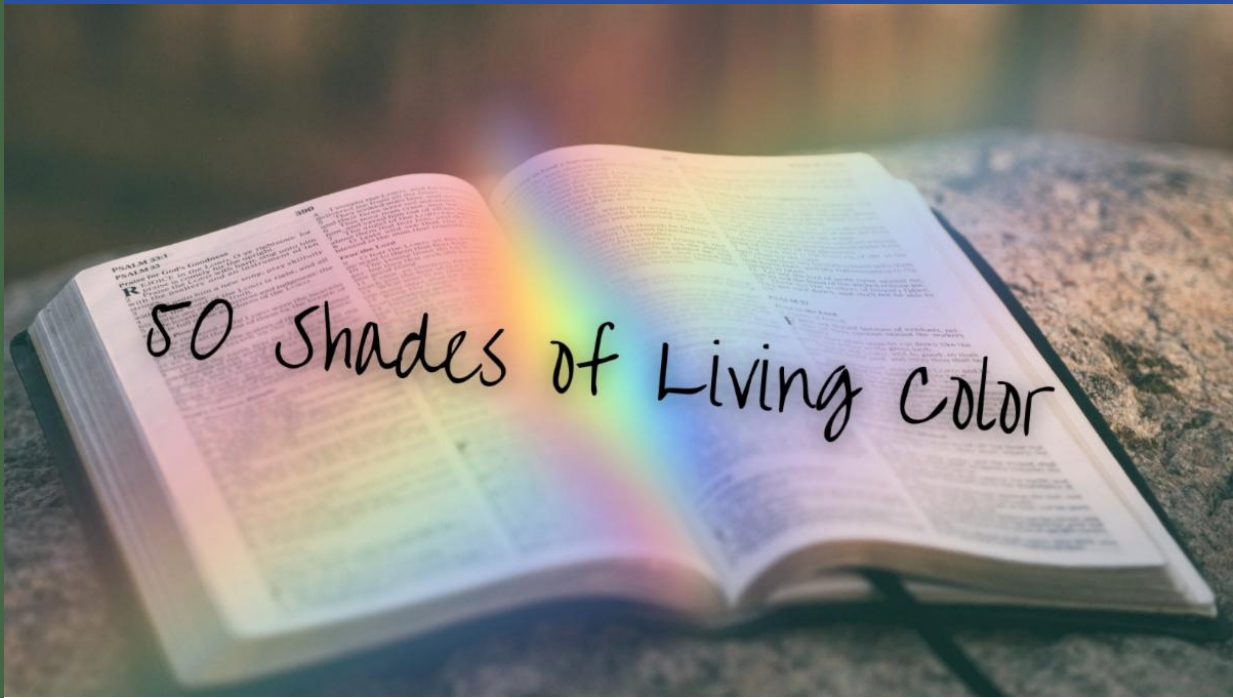
Each week during Lent

Monday - Friday
7:30am-8am

ZOOM ONLY

Meeting ID: 218 094 8164
Passcode: 682287

A Note from Father Jim



The three most important aspects of interpreting scripture, **context, context, context**.

There are many aspects to even defining context. I invite you to come take a playful dive into different parts of scripture this Saturday at 11 o'clock in the morning and enjoy soup and bread provided by John Templeton and Betsy Elsas.

Meanwhile, I invite you to look closely at this painting, and answer some questions. It is the only painting I've paid big money for in my life 40 years ago. Here are the questions.

1. Why do you think I bought the painting?
2. Why do you think the painter chose this person to paint?
3. What's going on with the person that is painted?
4. When do you think this painting was done?
5. What techniques of painting were used?
6. Why is this painting so valuable?



"Becoming Fishers of People"

News from the Vestry



This was the theme of the vestry retreat. The Vestry has taken this as our guiding direction this year.

Chris Adams was elected Junior Warden and he will be forming a Building and Grounds Committee.

The Vestry wants to focus on how we invite people to church, how we welcome them once they enter the doors or the parking lot and how we help them connect to the life of the Parish.

One of the first action items was to approve funds to improve our signage and install the new monitor screen located above the name badge bulletin board in the Narthex.

This monitor screen will be updated every week so the bulletin board will never be dated. Some of you may think these monitor screens are tacky, but there's nothing more tacky than a messy out-of-date bulletin board as was the case in a previous church. We had a beautiful bulletin board with a border around it in red paper and nothing on it but thumb tacks. I think that defines tacky. Lol.

The monitor screen is to let both members and visitors see all that is happening here at St. James and it is a lot! We are quite the vibrant congregation. We are also putting the same happenings on the monitor in the parish hall, which also helps nonchurch groups meeting there to better see the life and activity of Saint James.

Members of the vestry are looking at outdoor signage and considering how we can make ourselves better known in the community. You'll be hearing more about this.

We also authorized an inspector to inspect our parish house to see what kind of shape it's in because we've noticed it is in need of repairs. We have brainstormed some ideas of how that building can best be used.

If you have ideas or questions about any of these items, please contact a member of the Vestry.

Fr Jim

Thoughts from a Deacon



Thoughts From a Deacon 03.04.2024

Worms and more worms! If there's an oak, there's a worm and did I mention there are oak trees pretty much everywhere I live in Clearwater, FL.

It's like they are floating in air just waiting to stick to my clothes, my hair, the dogs..... They are called Oak Leaf rollers (like inchworms). They feed on oak tree leaves and then do what most caterpillars do; they form a cocoon and turn into a moth. They are harmless – a nuisance but harmless.

Having been a grade 5 teacher, I truly enjoyed the science part, so I see worms as a sign of change, undergoing a metamorphosis as they grow.

God used a worm and a plant to teach Jonah a lesson. Jonah admits to God that the reason he left the city of Nineveh was that he had known God would be merciful and he, Jonah, had wanted the city destroyed because the whole place was bad.

Jonah doesn't like that God is merciful, full of loving kindness, ready to forgive

sin. He wants a God who will punish evil. God is not happy that Jonah is so selfish. But because he is full of mercy, kindness, and compassion he sent a vine to give Jonah shade from the sun, and just when he was getting comfortable, God sent a worm to destroy it. The worm ate up the plant and Jonah learned a lesson. He needed to see the needs of others rather than just focusing on himself.

Worms can be a nuisance for sure. Worms are our sins, our faults, our sorrows, losses, disappointments. Worms go through stages, as we do. God's hand is in it all. God gives so many gifts, especially the gift of His Son. Our reason to live is not the gifts, but the Giver!

Dear God, help me grow and change to love you and serve others. Amen.

A Note from your Parish Administrator

Hi All!

Since I started as your Parish Administrator back in August, I finally feel like I'm settling into this job rather well and I tell everyone in my life how much I love it! It has truly been an immense blessing to me and has had a profound positive impact on my life outside the office. I am grateful every single day to be here.



I have finally attached a lot of faces to names, our end-of-year activities have finally concluded, I think I finally have a system down that works for me week to week and we finally have welcomed a Priest-in-Charge who has been amazing to work with as we have figured out a system that works for the both of us...it's all coming together!!!

As you know, welcoming a Priest-in-Charge means welcoming new ideas and ways to better our church. These ideas and changes also include myself working here behind the scenes to assist in implementing these changes. You will notice a couple of these changes when you come to church on Sunday (*I won't give anything away! You'll just have to join us on Sunday!*)!

Another one of these changes is that Father Jim and I decided that the *Messenger* would be scheduled to go out at 5pm on THURSDAY of EVERY week. This will not only keep me on track when you communicate news and happenings, but will also keep happenings within the church running efficiently especially when registration and sign-ups are required ahead of time.

Should you have any content that needs to go into the Messenger, please reach out to me directly via email by end of day on Tuesday so that I can ensure it gets included and proofread in time to go out on Thursdays. This will also apply to anything you need to go into the bulletin on Sundays since the bulletin gets printed Thursday mornings. Anything received after end of day Tuesdays, will go into the following

week's Messenger or bulletin.

This is the best way I know to keep things from "falling through the cracks" and in running smoothly. As you know, I work with many committees and individuals, gather and coordinate materials for both the Sunday Bulletin and the *Messenger*, arrange for proofreading, seek Father Jim's approval and, once obtained, prepare all of these documents and articles for publication and distribution to our membership. This occurs while attending to all other duties as Parish Administrator. Submitting information by the requested timeline will help our weekly happenings stay on track.

Thank you all! I truly hope this allows for the continued positive growth of our church and gives a better understanding of the work I do here in the office. I will continue to work with everyone toward anything that allows for positive impact and efficiency. Should you have any constructive questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out.

Regards,

Sam J.
Parish Administrator

[EMAIL SAM](#)

Meet Cheryl McKay, Sexton



A sexton is a person who looks after a church. Cheryl has done just that since 2005. For over eighteen years, Cheryl has tended to the church, the parish office, and the building next to the labyrinth. Cheryl is dedicated to keeping St. James clean and tidy.

Cheryl also cleans homes of residents of Rabun County, some of whom are St. James members. One of her first cleaning jobs was for long-time members Martha and John Ezzard. Martha then referred Cheryl to St. James.

Cheryl was born in Connecticut and raised in Florida. In 1989 she moved with her mother to Rabun County. Some St. James members may remember *Julia's Steak and Seafood*

restaurant. Julia was Cheryl's mother. Cheryl worked at the restaurant as both hostess and restaurant cleaner.

Cheryl has two sons. One son, Tristan, lives in Utah. Her other son, Joey, lives in Clayton, is a waiter at *Fortify* restaurant and recently opened *McKay Motorsports* in Clayton. Cheryl is super proud of both sons.

If anyone has home cleaning services, or knows someone who does, Cheryl is available. She also is a pet sitter. Contact her at 706 949 1349, or

Send Cheryl an Email

Lunch and Learn 3.14.2024 *"How's Your Heart Health?"*



The Parish Hall had a fabulous turn out of 50+ in attendance for our spring Lunch and Learn hosted by the Pastoral Care Committee on 3.14.2024.

Siva Chiranjeevi MD, Cardiologist and his associates of the Georgia Institute, NEGMC led in conversation about Heart Health and answered the group's questions.







MOUNTAIN IVY GARDEN CLUB



Prelude to Spring

A Garden Symposium

An Event Celebrating MIGC's 30th Anniversary

March 19, 2024 • 8 a.m. till 4 p.m.

St. James Episcopal Church • 260 Warwoman Rd., Clayton, Georgia

All Tickets Sold in Advance \$50 • Price Includes Lunch

Speakers



**Firmly Rooted
Flower Farm's
Victoria Carver**
*How To Plant
a Cutting Garden*

**Native Appalachian
Plant Expert
Adam Bigelow**
*A Discussion on
Native Plants*

**UGA Extension Agent
Dr. Laura Nye**
*Importance of
Pollinators and How
to Plant for Them*

**Floral and
Landscape Designer
Gail Bell**
*How To Create a
Container Like a Pro*



**FOR TICKETS
CONTACT BESS
AT 706-491-5577
OR VISIT US ON FACEBOOK
MOUNTAIN IVY GARDEN CLUB**

*Event dedicated to the
memory of Mrs. Carol Reeves*



About the event

Prelude to Spring A Garden Seminar

A day-long garden seminar featuring expert speakers, demonstrations and garden related vendors and activities.

Tickets sold in advance \$50. Lunch included. Ticket info contact Bess 706-491-5577.

Work Day in the Gardens

03.22.2024

Do you know –

- The first day of Spring is Tuesday,



March 19, 2024

Let's celebrate these wonderful occasions with a workday in the St. James Gardens. Time to check out which plants slept through the cold winter and who is waking up to greet the new season.

Mark your calendar:

Friday, March 22, 9am - 12 noon

We hope you will join us in dressing our gardens for Easter and spring!

Contact Kathy Booker [HERE](#)

Palm Crosses

Join the Altar Guild on Saturday, March 23rd, to make crosses for Palm Sunday. We have a great time working together to provide the crosses for our parish. We will meet in the Parish Hall at 10:00am. All are encouraged to attend.



EASTER FLOWERS



If you would like to donate toward the St. James Easter flowers, your gifts can be designated as shown in the form below:

Forms received by Monday, March 25th will have names listed in the Easter bulletin.

[EASTER FLOWERS FORM](#)

Prayer Vigil

The Vigil will begin at 7:00pm
Maundy Thursday, March 28th
and end at 9:00 am Good
Friday, March 29th.



Please sign up for the vigil and
leave your email address if you don't regularly get emails
from the church.

Maundy Thursday extends into an all-night prayer vigil,
commemorating Jesus' request that his disciples stay up
praying with him in the Garden of Gethsemane before his
arrest. Please select a time to pray in your home, covering
12 hours. More than one person is invited to sign up at the
same time.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

EASTER POTLUCK



Join us at our annual Easter gathering!

St. James, people, friends, family....

All are Welcome! Come as You Are!

Terra Incognita Winery

Sunday, March 31 at 2:00pm

Bring a dish to share.

CONTACT Susi or Shelley with any questions:

SUSI

SHELLEY

Price Tatum Memorial Service



In Memory of David Price Tatum June 1, 1983 – February 12, 2024

With heavy hearts, we bid farewell to David Price Tatum, a man whose vibrant spirit and zest for life touched all who knew him. Price passed away peacefully on February 12, 2024, leaving behind a legacy of love, friendship, creativity, and boundless enthusiasm.

Born on June 1, 1983, Price was a lifelong Atlanta resident, attending Morningside Elementary, and graduating from both Pace Academy and Georgia State. His love for his city and its sports teams ran deep, a reflection of the pride he carried for his hometown in every aspect of his life.

An artistic soul, Price found beauty in the people and the world around him and his passion for adventure led him to explore both close to home and more far-flung destinations. A collector at heart, Price cherished the memories he made during his travels and everyday life, gathering trinkets, t-shirts, hats, and sneakers as tangible reminders of life. Each item held a story, a testament to his passion for life and the experiences that shaped him.

His love for life was surpassed by his love for his canine companions Hera, Palmer and Forty, who were more than just pets—they were cherished members of his family, sharing in his adventures and providing unwavering companionship throughout the years.

Above all, Price will be remembered for his boundless love for his friends and family. His kindness, generosity, and infectious laughter brought light into the lives of all who knew him. Though he may no longer walk among us, his spirit will continue to inspire and uplift us.

Price leaves behind his parents Jacqueline (Rogers) Tatum & David Tatum; his sister Ashley Tatum; aunts and uncles Ronald & Hannah Rogers; James & Janie Tatum; Thomas & Katherine Tatum; and many loving cousins and friends.

Price is preceded in death by his grandparents: Gaynelle & Clinton Tatum; Pauline & Berry Rogers; and Cousin Kevin Rogers.

Price gifted us with a legacy of love and laughter that will be cherished forever. He will be deeply missed by his friends, family, and all who had the privilege of knowing him. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Association or your local animal shelter in Price's memory..

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, March 16, 3:00 PM at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Atlanta, Georgia. A Celebration of Life will be held following the Memorial Service at Vickery's, Glenwood Park, Atlanta, Georgia.

May he rest in peace, knowing that his adventurous and loving spirit will live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

CARPOOLING TO THE SERVICE: If anyone would like to carpool to Price's service, please contact Bonnie Klinect to make arrangements.

EMAIL BONNIE

DOK Meeting UPDATE



The Daughters of the King will gather on the 3rd Saturday of each month and will now meet **Saturday, April 20th** in the Parish Hall at 10am.

Victory Home Greenhouse

Need to get rid of plastic flower pots? Victory Home Greenhouse will recycle pots for you. They can use any size, but especially 1, 2, and 3 gallon pots. Please leave them in a plastic bag at the picnic table area or contact Kathy Booker [HERE](#), and they will be delivered to the greenhouse.



Brown Bag Sunday



Brown Bag Sunday the 4th Sunday of each month.

Help Sharing and Caring with their most needed items:

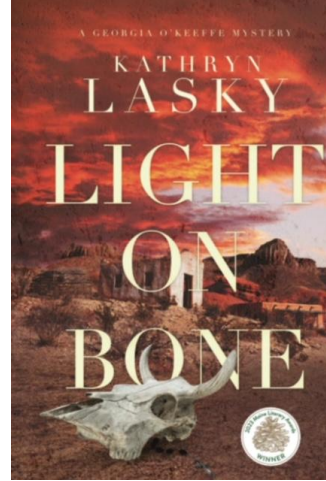
- Sugar
- Oil
- Flour
- Corn Meal
- Eggs
- Salt
- Pepper
- Margarine

Fellowship

St. James Book Club

This month we are reading "Light on Bone" by Kathryn Lasky. Everyone is invited to join us on Thursday, March 28th, 11:00am in the Parish Hall.

Contact Becky Callahan [HERE](#)



Join us for lunch?

The Retirees will begin meeting at noon **EVERY 3RD TUESDAY** of each month in 2024 and will meet at Ishy's Restaurant in Clayton March 19th, 2024. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Questions? Contact Roland Clemmons [here](#).

March Celebrations

Birthdays:

- 1- Sharon Denman
- 3- Brian Phillips
- 4- Harper Phillips
- 5- Kay Neilson
- 6- Terry Wright
- 15- Ken Klimasewski
- 17- Susan Staiger
- 20- Lola Shahan
- 21- Paulette Williams
- 27- Jennifer Moore
- 28- Dustin Emhart
- 30- Betty Cobb

Anniversaries:

- 30- Sharyn and Tim McCabe



Have you seen "The Chosen"?

The CHOSEN

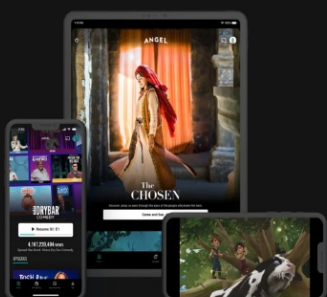


"A charismatic fisherman drowning in debt, a troubled woman wrestling with real demons. A gifted publican ostracized by his family and his people. A religious leader struggling with his beliefs. See Jesus through the eyes of those that met him."

This series is made available via the **FREE** Angel Studios app [HERE](#).


Season 4 will release in theaters on 02.01.2024


From Sam in the office: *"AMAZING. I LOVED this series and will definitely be viewing the new season in theaters!"*



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Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram

The St. James social media team is keeping our Facebook and Instagram channels updated with current information about St. James events, fun features about our parishioners and

their good works, and inspirational thoughts and themes.

Shelley Urban and Nanette O'Hara are sharing social media duties, with an able assist from Ginny Heckel. Dustin Emhart also will be pitching in.

Find us on Facebook at [St. James Episcopal, Clayton, GA](#)

Follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/saintjamesclayton/>

Content suggestions are welcome. We also need photos from any St. James activities current or past, or just photos of our beautiful church and gardens that you're willing to share. You can reach us by phone, text or email as follows:

Sam:

Office Phone: (706) 782-61

Email - [HERE](#)

Shelley:

Cell Phone (727)515-3501

Email - [HERE](#)

Nanette:

Cell Phone (813) 428-3182

Email- [HERE](#)

Ginny:

Cell Phone (706) 490-2867

Email- [HERE](#)

Give Now



Click the icon to **like us** on Facebook or **follow us** on Instagram.



Timeline for the Weekly Messenger:

Articles or other content received by NOON on Wednesdays will be in the next Messenger.

Please contact the **church office** if you have any questions.

St. James Episcopal Church | 706-782-6179 | 260 Warwoman Rd. Clayton, GA 30525 | www.stjamesclayton.org | email: [click here](#)

